

Unit III : Fourier Analysis

Joseph Fourier developed a technique to analyse non-sinusoidal waveforms.

Exponential form :- Fourier demonstrated that a periodic function $f(t)$ can be expressed as sum of sinusoidal functions.

As per Fourier representation,

$$f(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} M_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \theta_n) \quad \dots \text{--- (1)}$$

where $\omega_0 = 2\pi/T_0$,

$T_0 \rightarrow$ time period

A function $f(t)$ is periodic if $f(t) = f(t+T_0)$

when $n=1$, one cycle covers T_0 seconds while $M_1 \cos(\omega_0 t + \theta_1)$ is termed as fundamental. Taking $n=2$, T_0 represents two cycles in T_0 seconds and term ~~$M_2 \cos$~~ $M_2 \cos(2\omega_0 t + \theta_2)$ is called the 2nd harmonic and so on i.e. for $n=k$, k cycles are covered in T_0 seconds and $M_k \cos(k\omega_0 t + \theta_k)$ is called the k th harmonic term.

Using Euler's identity,

$$f(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}$$

$n \neq 0$, $c_n \rightarrow$ complex Fourier coefficients

$$= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t) \dots \text{Trigonometric series}$$

C_n can be evaluated as

$$\therefore f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}$$

multiplying both sides by $e^{-jk\omega_0 t}$ and integrating over the interval t_1 to $(t_1 + T_0)$ we get

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_1 + T_0} f(t) e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt = \int_{t_1}^{t_1 + T_0} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n e^{jn\omega_0 t} e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt$$

$$= C_k T_0$$

$$\therefore \int_{t_1}^{t_1 + T_0} e^{j(n-k)\omega_0 t} dt = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n \neq k \\ T_0 & \text{for } n = k \end{cases}$$

\therefore Fourier coefficients are defined by the expression

$$C_n = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1 + T_0} f(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt \quad \dots \text{--- (3)}$$

expression (3) represents the exponential form of Fourier series.

Trigonometric form of Fourier series:-

From eqⁿ (3), we can write

$$2C_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) [\cos n\omega_0 t - j \sin n\omega_0 t] dt$$

$$\text{or } 2C_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) \cos n\omega_0 t dt - j \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) \sin n\omega_0 t dt \quad \dots (4)$$

$\therefore C_n$ is complex coefficient

$$\therefore 2C_n = a_n - j b_n \quad \dots (5)$$

comparing eq^{ns} (4) & (5)

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) \cos n\omega_0 t dt \quad \dots (6a)$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) \sin n\omega_0 t dt \quad \dots (6b)$$

Also from eqⁿ (3) C_0 being written as a_0 and is given by

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) dt \quad \dots (7)$$

$a_0 \rightarrow$ average value and can be directly evaluated from the waveform.

Since the periodic function can be represented as sum of sinusoidal functions, we can rewrite the eqn (1) as below

$$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$$

where $a_0 \rightarrow$ constant

$a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n$ and $b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n$ are amplitudes of different harmonics.
 $x =$ variable and $n =$ an integer $1, 2, \dots$

Fourier series can also be expressed in terms of either sine or cosine terms.

Let $M = a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$

$$= \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2} \left[\frac{a_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}} \cos nx + \frac{b_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}} \sin nx \right]$$

Let $\frac{a_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}} = \sin \phi_n$ and $\frac{b_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}} = \cos \phi_n$

$$\therefore M = \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2} [\sin \phi_n \cos nx + \cos \phi_n \sin nx]$$

$$M = k_n \sin(nx + \phi_n)$$

where $k_n = \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}$

where $\tan \phi_n = \frac{a_n}{b_n}$
 $\dots \textcircled{a}$

Thus finally we can write

$$f(x) = a_0 + k_1 \sin(x + \phi_1) + k_2 \sin(2x + \phi_2) + \dots + k_n \sin(nx + \phi_n) \quad \text{--- } \textcircled{b}$$

or on the other hand if we put

$$\frac{a_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}} = \cos \phi_n \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{b_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}} = \sin \phi_n$$

then $M = \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2} [\cos \phi_n \cos nx + \sin \phi_n \sin nx]$

$$M = k_n \cos(nx - \phi_n)$$

i.e. $f(t) = a_0 + k_1 \cos(x - \phi_1) + k_2 \cos(2x - \phi_2) + k_3 \cos(3x - \phi_3) + \dots + k_n \cos(nx - \phi_n)$

ex: Find the period of the function

$$f(t) = \cos t/3 + \cos t/4$$

Soln!:- since $f(t)$ is periodic

$$f(t) = f(t+T)$$

$$\cos t/3 + \cos t/4 = \cos \frac{1}{3}(t+T) + \cos \frac{1}{4}(t+T)$$

we know $\cos \theta = \cos(\theta + 2n\pi)$
on equating corresponding terms on both

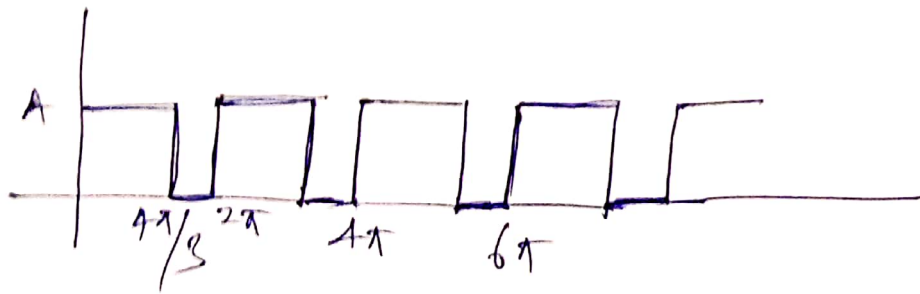
sides $t/3 + 2m\pi = \frac{1}{3}(t+T)$

$$\Rightarrow 2m\pi = \frac{T}{3} \Rightarrow T = 6m\pi \quad \text{and}$$

$$\frac{t}{4} + 2n\pi = \frac{1}{4}(t+T) \Rightarrow T = 8n\pi$$

therefore, smallest period, $T = 24\pi$

ex 15.1 :- Obtain the coefficient of the exponential Fourier series for the waveform shown below:



Soln :-

$$c_n = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} f(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{4\pi/3} A e^{-jn(2\pi \times \frac{1}{T_0})t} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{4\pi/3} A e^{-jnt} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{4\pi/3} A e^{-jnt} dt$$

$$= \frac{A}{2\pi} \int_0^{4\pi/3} e^{-jnt} dt$$

$$= \frac{A}{2\pi} \left[\frac{e^{-jnt}}{-jn} \right]_0^{4\pi/3}$$

$$= \frac{A}{2\pi} \left[\frac{e^{-j4\pi n/3} - 1}{-jn} \right]$$

$$= \frac{-A}{j2\pi n} [e^{-j4\pi n/3} - 1] = \frac{jA}{2\pi n} \left[e^{-j4\pi n/3} - 1 \right]$$

Symmetry in Fourier series :- when a signal exhibit symmetrical properties, simplification procedure can be adopted in Fourier series. There are three types of symmetry:

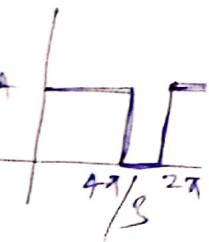
- (a) Even function symmetry
- (b) Odd function symmetry
- (c) Half wave symmetry

① Even function symmetry :- A function is said to be even if

$$f(-t) = f(t)$$

An even function is symmetrical about the vertical axis. In order to determine the coefficients of the Fourier series, the conditions of symmetry being applied, let $t_1 = -T_0/2$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore a_0 &= \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T_0} f(t) dt = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{-T_0/2+T_0} f(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} f(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^0 f(t) dt + \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt \end{aligned}$$



Let us now change the variable of the first integral so that $t = -x$ in the first integral.

Then $f(-x) = f(x)$, $dt = d(-x) = -dx$ while the range of integration is from $x = T_0/2$ to 0.

$$= \therefore a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 f(x) (-dx) + \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(x) dx + \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt$$

$$\therefore \boxed{a_0 = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt}$$

Similarly

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^0 f(t) \cos n\omega_0 t dt + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos n\omega_0 t dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 f(x) \cos(-n\omega_0 x) (-dx) + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos n\omega_0 t dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(x) \cos(n\omega_0 x) dx + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$\boxed{a_n = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos n\omega_0 t dt}$$

Also for the other coefficient

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^0 f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 f(x) \sin(-n\omega_0 x) (-dx) + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$= -\frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(x) \sin(n\omega_0 x) dx + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$\therefore b_n = 0$$

Thus we see that for even function symmetry

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$\& b_n = 0$$

cosine wave is a even function and the sum or product of two or more even functions is a even function. with addition of a constant, the even nature is still present.

⑤ Odd function symmetry :- A function is said to be odd if

$$f(-t) = -f(t)$$

we have seen that

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^0 f(t) dt + \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt$$

for $t = -x$, the first integral becomes $\frac{1}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 -f(x) (-dx)$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore a_0 &= \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 -f(x) (-dx) + \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(x) dx + \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore a_0 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^0 f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt \\ &= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 -f(x) \cos(-n\omega_0 x) (-dx) + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt \\ &= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 f(x) \cos(n\omega_0 x) dx + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt \\ &= -\frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(x) \cos(n\omega_0 x) dx + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore a_n = 0$$

3 and $b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^0 f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$

$$= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 -f(x) \sin(-n\omega_0 x) (-dx) + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$= -\frac{2}{T_0} \int_{T_0/2}^0 f(x) \sin(n\omega_0 x) dx + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(x) \sin(n\omega_0 x) dx + \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$= \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

Thus for odd symmetry

$$a_0 = 0$$

$$a_n = 0$$

$$\& b_n = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$$

Examples of even and odd symmetry are shown below

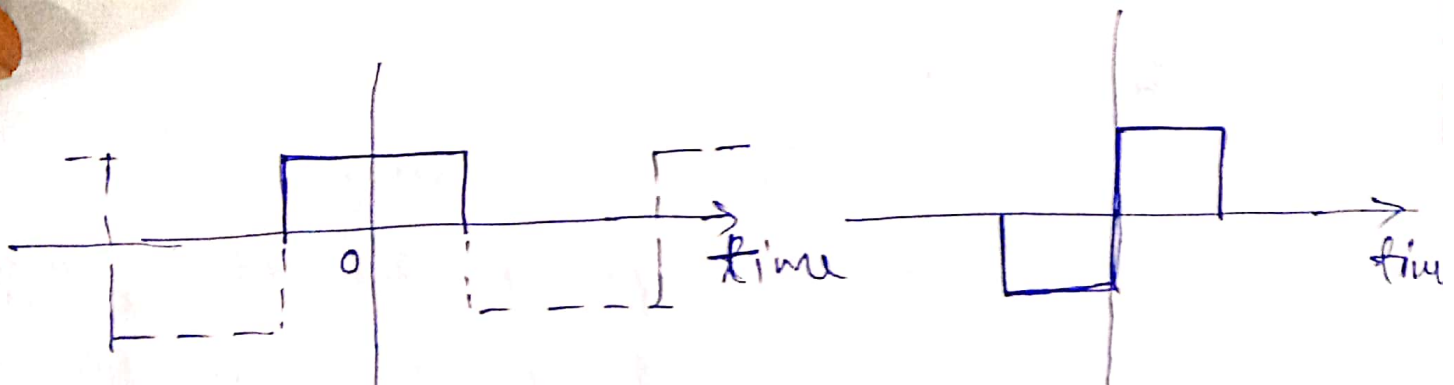


fig (a): Even symmetry

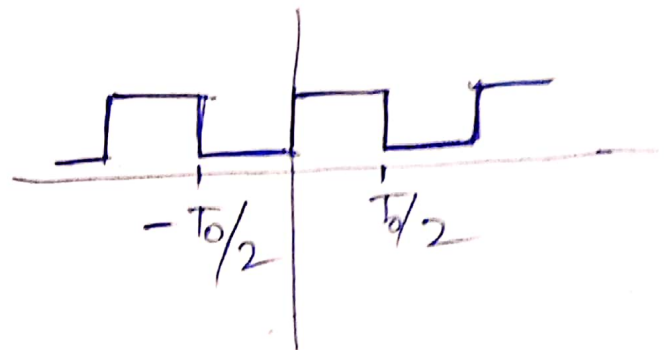
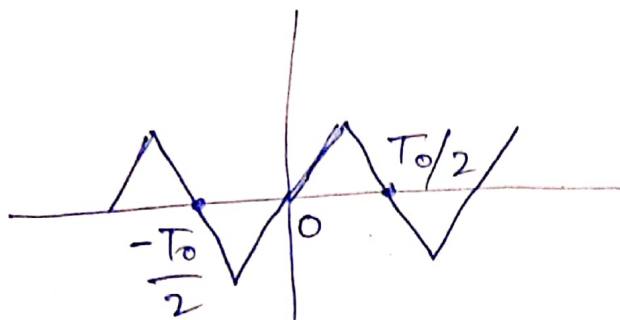
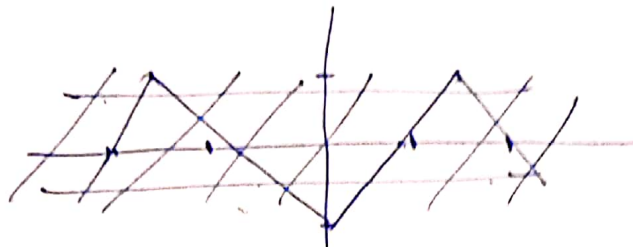
fig (b): odd symmetry

Half wave symmetry :- A function is said to have half wave symmetry if

$$-f\left(t - \frac{T_0}{2}\right) = f(t)$$

i.e. the half cycle is an inverted version of the adjacent half cycle.

i.e. if the waveform from $-T_0/2$ to 0 is inverted then it becomes identical to the waveform from 0 to $T_0/2$.



Mathematically it can be shown that by changing the ^{first} variable of the Fourier coefficient expression for $t = n + T_0/2$ and

$$f\left(t - \frac{T_0}{2}\right) = -f(t)$$

$a_0 = 0$, $a_n = 0$ & $b_n = 0$ when n is even.

and $a_n = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt$ when n is odd

$b_n = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt$ when n is odd.