

# Chapter 2

## Signals and Spectra

### (Part 1 of 5)



- Information is represented as **electrical signals** in electrical communication systems.
- Information may be in variety of forms
  - Wanted information, e.g. human voices, MP3 music, MPEG videos and characters/code output from a computer,
  - Unwanted signals, e.g. noise and interference
- The purpose of electrical communication system is to convey information signals from a source to the destination.

## Electrical signal

- Variation of electrical voltage/current in time and expressed as a function of time.
  - At any instant of time, there is a unique value of the function.
  - Analog, discrete (sampled analog), or digital.
  - Periodic or non-periodic.
  
- Expressed as a function of frequency.

## 2.1 Signal classification

### Analog and digital signals

- Analog signals are represented as a continuous function of time and have infinite number of voltage levels.

e.g. speech signal



## 2.1 Signal classification

### Analog and digital signals

- Digital signals have only a finite number of possible levels.

**e.g. binary signals**

Voltage



## 2.1 Signal classification

### Periodic and Non-periodic signals

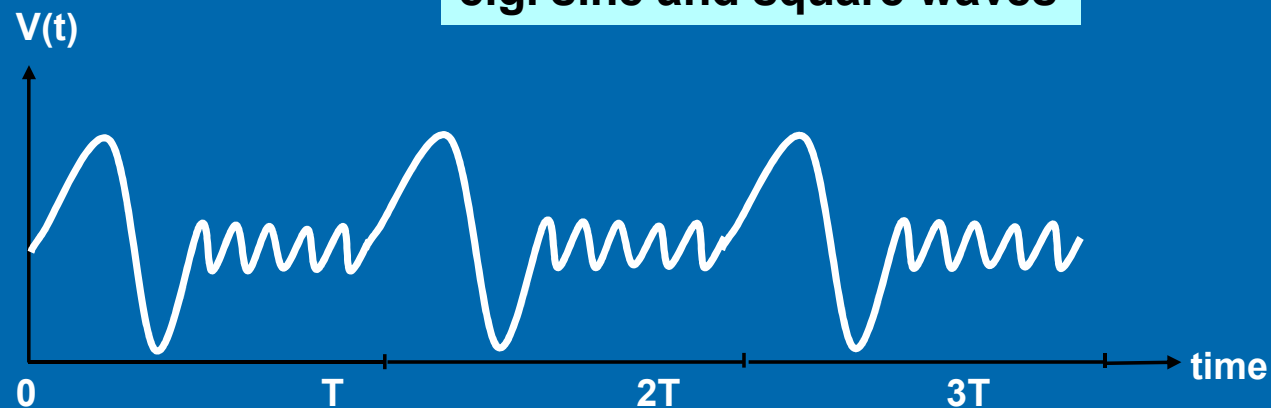
#### Periodic signals

- A signal  $v(t)$  is said to be periodic if it satisfies the condition:

$$v(t) = v(t + T)$$

Repetitive waveforms

e.g. sine and square waves



**$T$  is the duration of one cycle or Period**



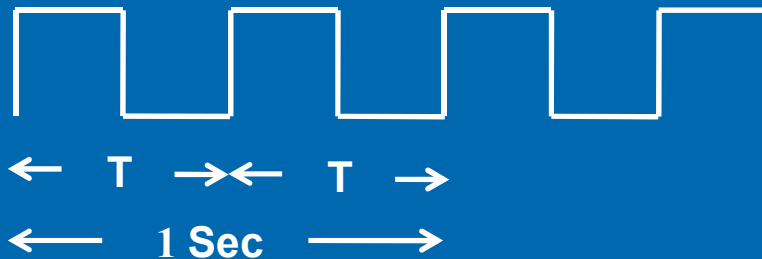
## 2.1 Signal classification

### Periodic and Non-periodic signals

#### Fundamental frequency of periodic signals

- The number of cycles per second measured in cycles per second or Hz.
- Rate at which a periodic signal repeats its waveform.

$$f = 1/T$$



The period  $T$  is 0.5 sec.  
The fundamental frequency  $f$  is 2 Hz (or cycles/sec).

## 2.1 Signal classification

### Periodic and Non-periodic signals

#### Harmonics

#### Multiples of fundamental frequency

#### Angular frequency, $\omega$

Frequency expressed in radians/sec,  $\omega$  :

$$\omega = 2\pi \times \text{number of cycles/sec} = 2\pi f \text{ radians/sec.}$$





## 2.1 Signal classification

### Periodic and Non-periodic signals

#### Non-periodic signals

- Signals that are not repetitive. e.g. speech and music signals



## 2.1 Signal classification

### Continuous-time and discrete-time signals

#### Continuous-time signals

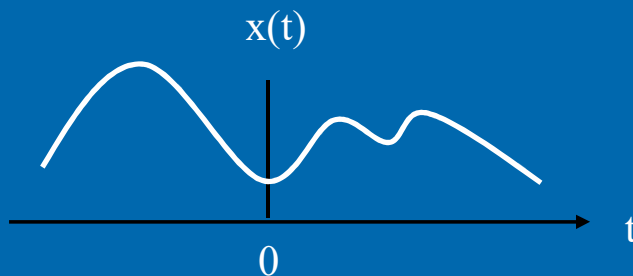
- Defined at all instants of time. e.g. sine, speech and music signals
- Naturally produced by a transducer when converting a physical signal into an electrical signal.
  - e.g. produced when a microphone converts a sound wave into electrical signal.
- May have zero values at some instants of time or even for certain interval of time.

## 2.1 Signal classification

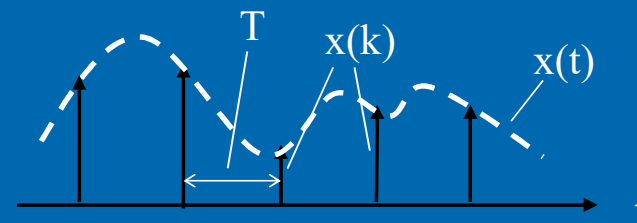
### Continuous-time and discrete-time signals

#### Discrete-time signal, $x(k)$

- Defined only at discrete instants of time.
- The time variable,  $k$  takes discrete values only. i.e. it takes values in a set of integers.
- Usually derived from a continuous time signal  $x(t)$  by a sampling process.



continuous time signal  $x(t)$



Discrete-time signal  $x(k)$

## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Sinusoidal signals

$$x(t) = V_p \cos(2\pi f t + \phi) = V_p \sin(2\pi f t + \phi')$$

Continuous-time

$$x(k) = V_p \cos(2\pi f k + \phi) = V_p \sin(2\pi f k + \phi')$$

Discrete-time

or

$$x(t) = V_p \cos(2\pi f t + \phi) = V_p \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

$$x(k) = V_p \cos(2\pi f k + \phi) = V_p \cos(\omega k + \phi)$$

$\omega = 2\pi f$

- Fully described by three characteristics:

**Peak amplitude ( $V_p$ ):** the maximum voltage

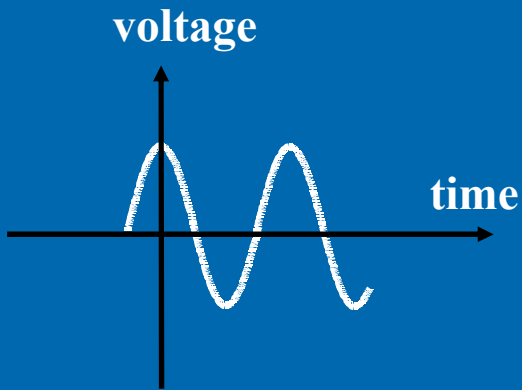
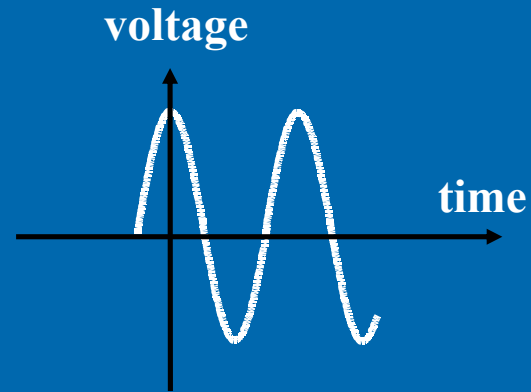
**Frequency ( $f$ ):** the rate at which a sinusoidal wave repeats its waveform.

**Initial phase ( $\phi$ ):** the position of the waveform at  $t = 0$ .

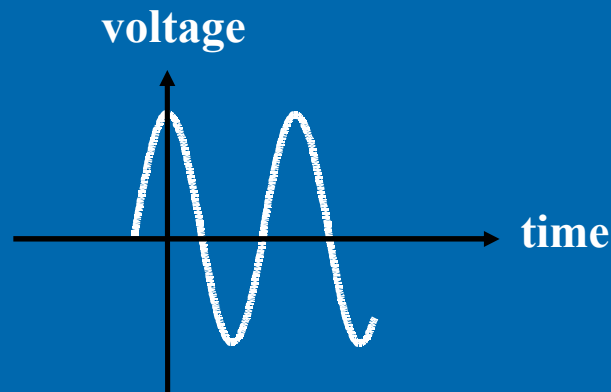
## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Sinusoidal signals

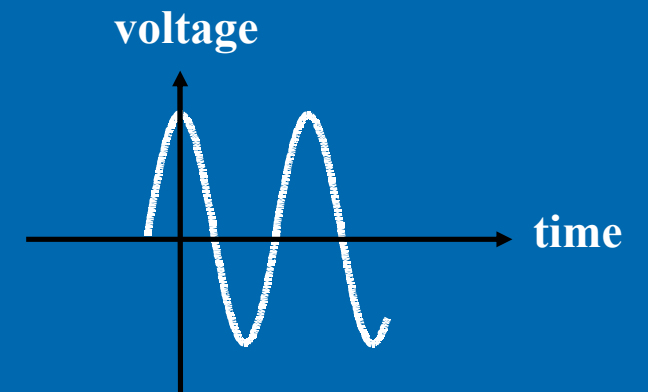
Sinusoidal signals with different amplitude, frequency and initial phase



(a) Sinusoidal signals with different amplitude



(b) Sinusoidal signals with different frequency



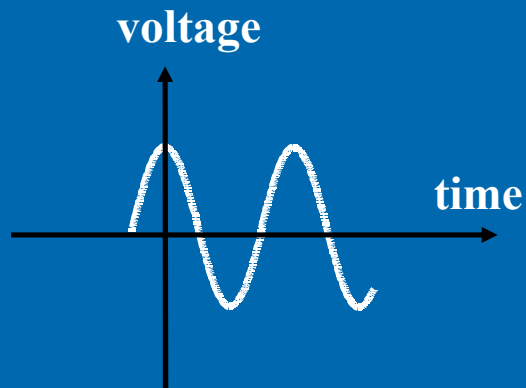
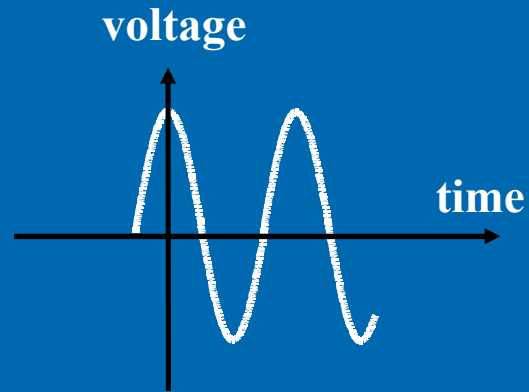
(c) Sinusoidal signals with different initial phase



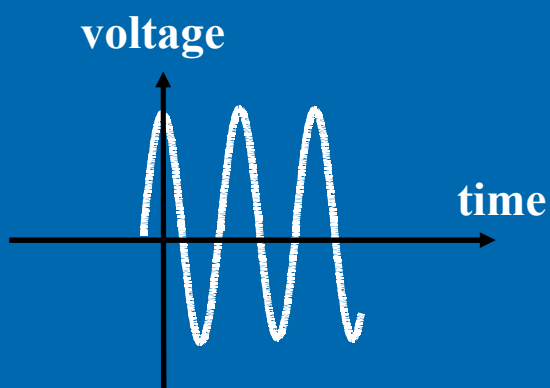
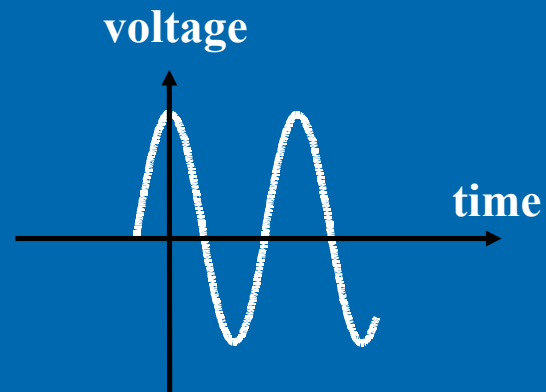
## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Sinusoidal signals

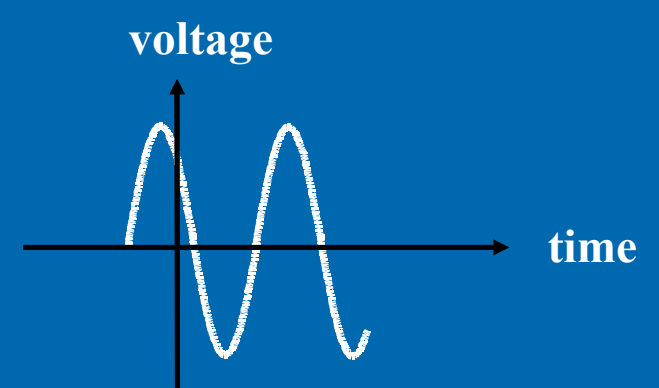
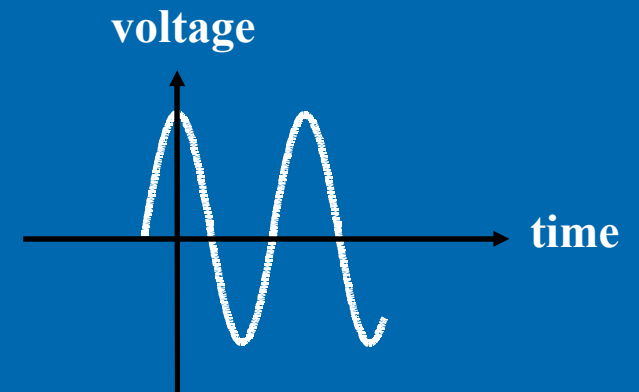
Sinusoidal signals with different amplitude, frequency and initial phase



(a) Sinusoidal signals with different amplitude



(b) Sinusoidal signals with different frequency



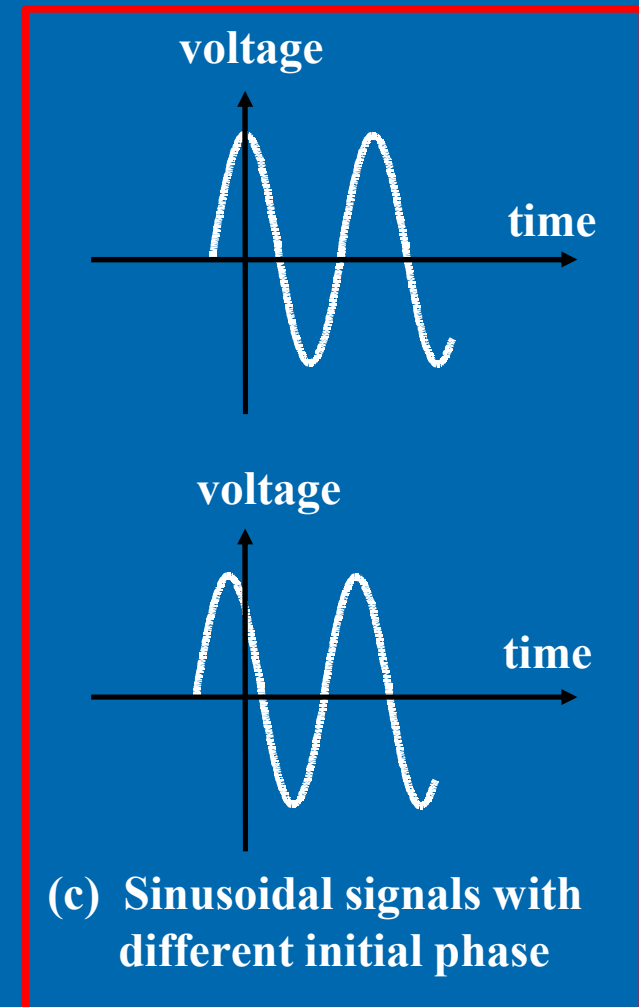
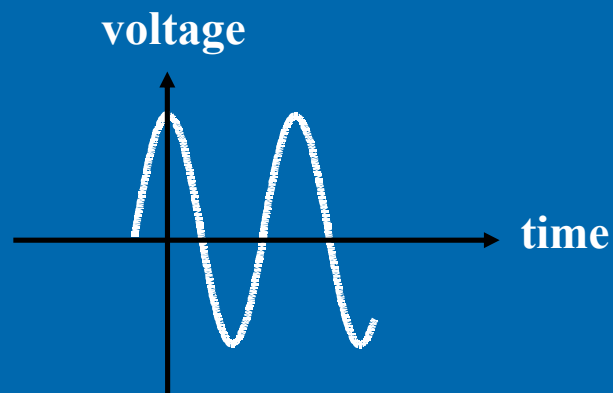
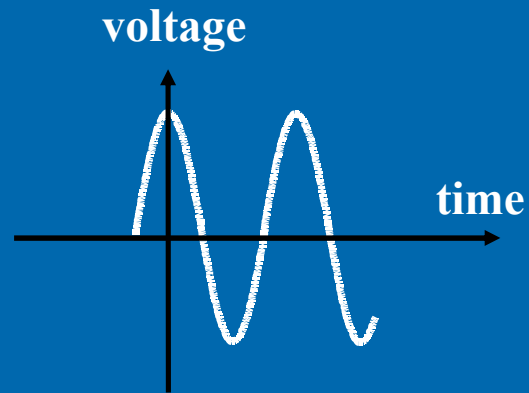
(c) Sinusoidal signals with different initial phase



## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Sinusoidal signals

Sinusoidal signals with different amplitude, frequency and initial phase



(a) Sinusoidal signals with different amplitude

(b) Sinusoidal signals with different frequency

(c) Sinusoidal signals with different initial phase



### Example 2.1

Extract the parameters from the following sine waves.

$v(t)$	Peak Voltage	freq(Hz) = $\frac{\omega}{2\pi}$	Phase $\phi$
$6\sin(4\pi f_0 t + \frac{\pi}{4})$			
$4\sin(6\pi f_0 t + \frac{\pi}{2})$			
$8\sin 5000\pi t$			
$\sin 3000t$			





## Solution

Standard expression:  $V_p \sin (2\pi f t + \phi)$

$$V_p = 6 \quad \begin{matrix} 2\pi f t = 4\pi f_0 t \\ f = 2f_0 \end{matrix}$$

$$6 \sin (4\pi f_0 t + \frac{\pi}{4})$$



## Solution

Standard expression:  $V_p \sin (2\pi f t + \phi)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 V_p = 6 & f = 2f_0 & \phi = \frac{\pi}{4} \\
 \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
 6 \sin (4\pi f_0 t + \frac{\pi}{4})
 \end{array}$$



## Solution

**Standard expression:  $V_p \sin(2\pi ft + \phi)$**

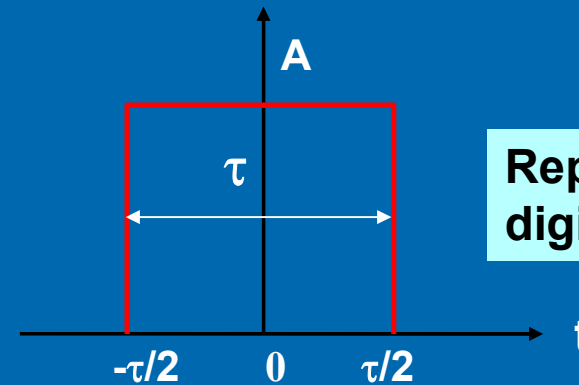
$v(t)$	Peak Voltage	freq(Hz) = $\frac{\omega}{2\pi}$	Phase $\phi$
$6\sin(4\pi f_0 t + \frac{\pi}{4})$	6	$2f_0$	$\frac{\pi}{4}$
$4\sin(6\pi f_0 t + \frac{\pi}{2})$	4	$3f_0$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$
$8\sin 5000\pi t$	8	2500	0
$\sin 3000t$	1	$1500/\pi$	0



## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Rectangular pulse (rect function)

$$x(t) = \text{Arect}\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right) = \begin{cases} A, & |t| \leq \frac{\tau}{2} \\ 0, & |t| > \frac{\tau}{2} \end{cases}$$



**Represent binary 1 in digital communications.**

- A rectangular-shaped pulse centred at  $t = 0$  with a width of  $\tau$  and height of  $A$ .



## Example 2.2

Sketch  $x(t) = 4 \text{ rect}(0.5t)$

### Solution

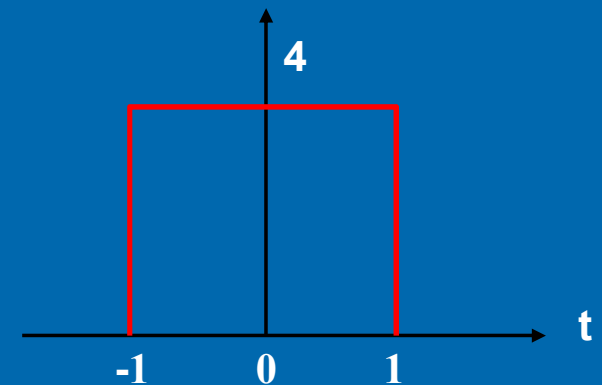
**Standard expression:  $x(t) = A \text{ rect}\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right)$**

$$x(t) = 4 \text{ rect}(0.5 t)$$

$$= 4 \text{ rect}\left(\frac{t}{(1/0.5)}\right)$$

$$= 4 \text{ rect}\left(\frac{t}{2}\right)$$

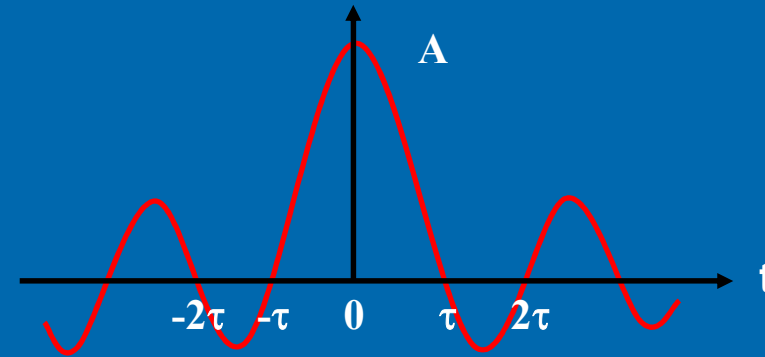
$$A = 4 \quad \text{and} \quad \tau = 2$$



## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Sinc Function

$$x(t) = A \operatorname{sinc}\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right) = \frac{A \sin\left(\pi \frac{t}{\tau}\right)}{\pi \frac{t}{\tau}}$$



- An even function passes through zero at all positive and negative multiples of  $\tau$  i.e.  $t = \pm \tau, \pm 2\tau, \dots$
- Reaches maximum of  $A$  at  $t = 0$ .



### Example 2.3

Sketch  $x(t) = 3 \text{ sinc}(4t)$

### Solution

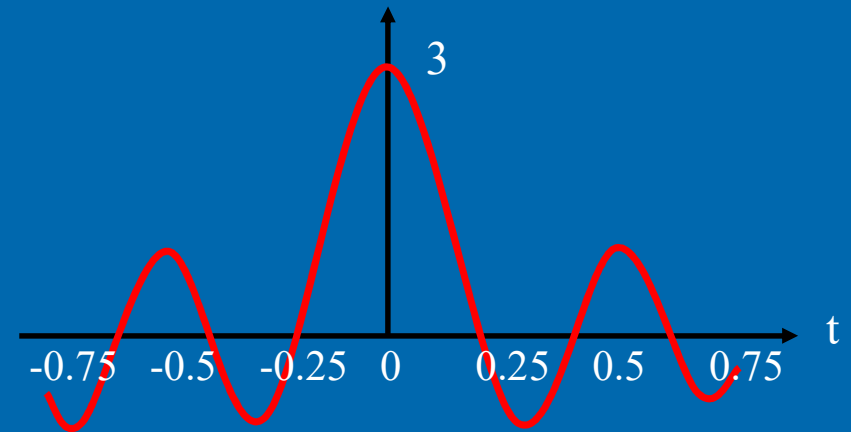
Standard expression:  $x(t) = A \text{ sinc}\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right)$

$$x(t) = 3 \text{ sinc}(4t)$$

$$= 3 \text{ sinc}\left(\frac{t}{(1/4)}\right)$$

$$= 3 \text{ sinc}\left(\frac{t}{0.25}\right)$$

$$A = 3 \text{ and } \tau = 0.25$$

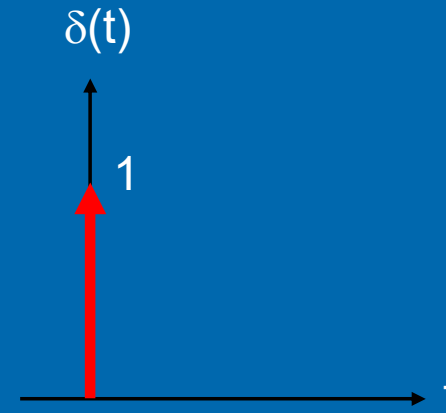


## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Unit Impulse

$$x(t) = \delta(t) = 0 \quad t \neq 0$$

$$\text{and} \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) dt = 1$$



- A pulse with zero width and the area under the pulse is unity
- An idealization of a signal that occurs in an extremely short period of time with an extremely large amplitude.
- Though not existed in practice, it is very useful for simplifying complicated analysis of communication systems.

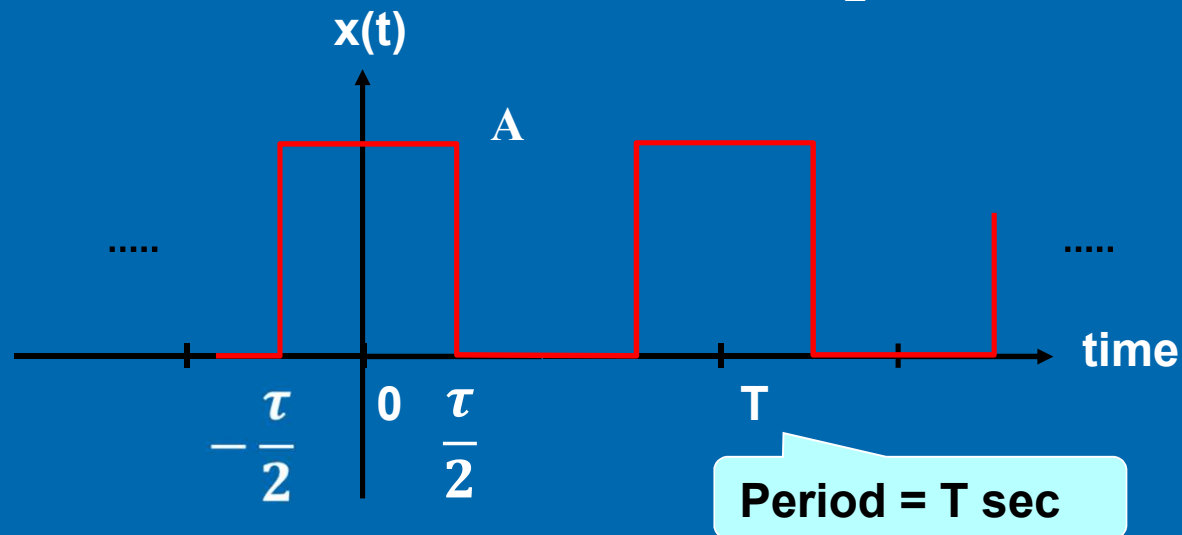




## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Periodic pulse train

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x(t - nT), \text{ where } x(t) = \begin{cases} A, & |t| \leq \frac{\tau}{2} \\ 0, & |t| > \frac{\tau}{2} \end{cases}$$



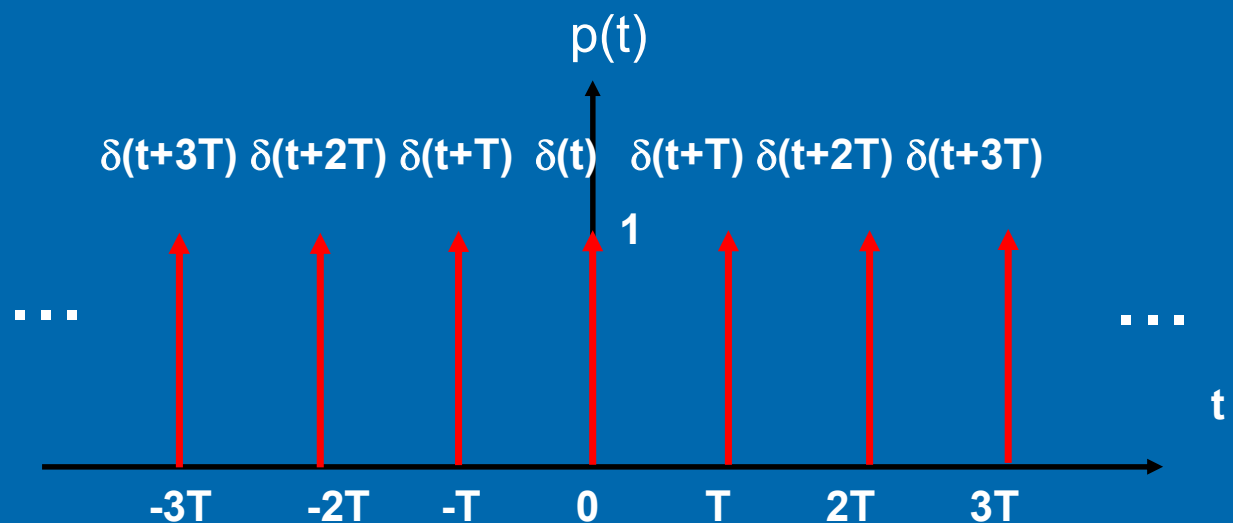
- Rectangular pulses with duration  $\tau$  uniformly spaced apart
- The duty cycle of a periodic pulse train:  $\frac{\tau}{T}$



## 2.2 Basic Signals

### Impulse train

$$p(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{n=\infty} \delta(t - nT)$$



Period = T sec

- Impulses uniformly spaced T seconds apart



**End**

## **CHAPTER 2**

**(Part 1 of 5)**

