

Sinc Function

Definition

There are two definitions for sinc function. In mathematics, it is defined as the ratio between $\sin(x)$ and x , while in engineering (especially in signal processing), it is defined as the ratio between $\sin(\pi x)$ and πx . The definite integral of sinc function over real numbers equals to π for the mathematics definition, and 1 for the engineering definition.

$$\begin{aligned}\sin c(x) &= \frac{\sin(x)}{x} && \text{(mathematics definition)} \\ \sin c(x) &= \frac{\sin(\pi x)}{\pi x} && \text{(engineering definition)}\end{aligned}$$

We will use the mathematics definition for the rest of this document. Lets derive the limit of sinc function.

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{1} = 1 \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin x}{x} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Integration

Integration of sinc function can be found in two ways : double integration and contour integration (complex analysis).

By double integration

First of all, lets consider another integral : $\int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dt$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dt &= \sin x \int_0^\infty e^{-xt} dt \\ &= \frac{\sin x}{-x} [e^{-xt}]_0^\infty \\ &= \frac{\sin x}{x}\end{aligned} \quad \text{(equation 1)}$$

Then lets consider the integral : $\int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dx$. Note : $\int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dt \neq \int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dx$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int e^{-xt} \sin x dx &= \int -e^{-xt} d \cos x \\ &= (-e^{-xt} \cos x) - t \int e^{-xt} \cos x dx && \text{(integration by parts)} \\ &= (-e^{-xt} \cos x) - t \int e^{-xt} d \sin x \\ &= (-e^{-xt} \cos x) - t((e^{-xt} \sin x) + t \int e^{-xt} \sin x dx) && \text{(integration by parts)} \\ \int e^{-xt} \sin x dx \times (1+t^2) &= (-e^{-xt} \cos x) - t(e^{-xt} \sin x) \\ \int e^{-xt} \sin x dx &= \frac{(-e^{-xt} \cos x) - t(e^{-xt} \sin x)}{1+t^2} \\ \int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dx &= \left[\frac{(-e^{-xt} \cos x) - t(e^{-xt} \sin x)}{1+t^2} \right]_0^\infty \\ &= -\frac{(-e^{-0t} \cos 0) - t(e^{-0t} \sin 0)}{1+t^2} \\ &= -\frac{-1-t \times 0}{1+t^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{1+t^2}\end{aligned} \quad \text{(equation 2)}$$

How can we connect these two integrals? By double integration and swapping the integration order.

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\infty (\sin x / x) dx &= \int_0^\infty (\int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dt) dx && \text{(by equation 1)} \\ &= \int_0^\infty (\int_0^\infty e^{-xt} \sin x dx) dt && \text{(swapping order)} \\ &= \int_0^\infty 1/(1+t^2) dt && \text{(by equation 2)} \\ &= \int_0^\infty 1/(1+\tan^2 x) d \tan x && \text{(let } t = \tan x \text{)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int_0^{\infty} \cos^2 x / (\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x) d \tan x \\
&= \int_0^{\infty} \cos^2 x d \tan x \\
&= \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^2 x (1 + \tan^2 x) dx & \text{(see remark, note the integration range)} \\
&= \int_0^{\pi/2} (\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x) dx \\
&= \pi / 2
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\sin x / x) dx &= \int_0^{\infty} (\sin x / x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 (\sin x / x) dx \\
&= \int_0^{\infty} (\sin x / x) dx \times 2 & \text{(since : } \sin x / x = \sin(-x) / (-x) \text{)} \\
&= \pi
\end{aligned}$$

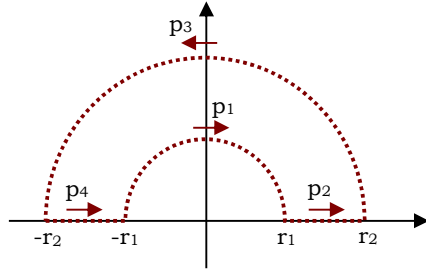
Remark :

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d \tan x}{dx} &= \frac{d \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}}{dx} \\
&= \frac{\cos x}{\cos x} - \frac{\sin x}{\cos^2 x} (-\sin x) \\
&= 1 + \tan^2 x
\end{aligned}$$

By contour integration

Please check whether the following is correct. Consider the path $p = p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4$. We define :

$$\begin{aligned}
z &= r e^{j\theta} & \text{(for any complex number)} \\
dz &= e^{j\theta} dr + j r e^{j\theta} d\theta & \text{(for any contour)} \\
dz &= e^{j\theta} dr & \text{(for contour on x axis, since there is no change in angle)} \\
dz &= j r e^{j\theta} d\theta & \text{(for contour on arc, since there is no change in magnitude)}
\end{aligned}$$



Lets consider the following integral :

$$\begin{aligned}
&\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_p \frac{\exp(jz)}{z} dz \\
&= \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{p_1} \frac{\exp(jz)}{z} dz \right) + \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{p_2} \frac{\exp(jz)}{z} dz \right) + \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{p_3} \frac{\exp(jz)}{z} dz \right) + \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{p_4} \frac{\exp(jz)}{z} dz \right) \\
&= \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \int_{\pi}^0 \frac{\exp(jr_1 e^{j\theta})}{r_1 e^{j\theta}} j r_1 e^{j\theta} d\theta \right) + \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{\exp(jr e^{j0})}{r e^{j0}} e^{j0} dr \right) + \left(\lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\exp(jr_2 e^{j\theta})}{r_2 e^{j\theta}} j r_2 e^{j\theta} d\theta \right) + \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{r_2}^{r_1} \frac{\exp(jr e^{j\pi})}{r e^{j\pi}} e^{j\pi} dr \right) \\
&= \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \int_{\pi}^0 j \exp(jr_1 e^{j\theta}) d\theta \right) + \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{\exp(jr)}{r} dr \right) + \left(\lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\pi} j \exp(jr_2 e^{j\theta}) d\theta \right) + \left(\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_{r_2}^{r_1} \frac{\exp(-jr)}{r} dr \right)
\end{aligned}$$

The 1st term :

$$\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \int_{\pi}^0 j \exp(jr_1 e^{j\theta}) d\theta = \int_{\pi}^0 j \exp(0) d\theta = -j\pi$$

The 3rd term :

$$\lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\pi} j \exp(jr_2 e^{j\theta}) d\theta = 0 \quad \text{(Jordan's lemma, please check)}$$

The 2nd and 4th term :

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\exp(jr)}{r} dr + \int_{\infty}^0 \frac{\exp(-jr)}{r} dr &= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\exp(jr)}{r} dr + \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{\exp(jr')}{r'} dr' \quad \text{(put } r' = -r \text{)} \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(jr)}{r} dr
\end{aligned}$$

Hence we have :

$$\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_p \frac{\exp(jz)}{z} dz = -j\pi + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(jr)}{r} dr$$

but $\lim_{r_1 \rightarrow 0} \lim_{r_2 \rightarrow \infty} \int_p \frac{\exp(jz)}{z} dz = 0$ (Cauchy theorem, please check : p doesn't enclose pole.)

$$\Rightarrow -j\pi + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(jr)}{r} dr = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(jr)}{r} dr = j\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(jx)}{x} dx = j\pi \quad (\text{changing dummy variable})$$

Comparing real part and imaginary part of both sides, we have :

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\cos x / x) dx = 0$$

and $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\sin x / x) dx = \pi$

Remark : By the time I wrote this document, I am still not very familiar with complex analysis, thus please check Jordan's lemma and Cauchy theorem later.

Fourier transform

Fourier transform is defined as :

$$FT_{of}[f(x)] = F(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-j2\pi ux} dx \quad (\text{ordinary frequency, unitary})$$

$$FT_{af}[f(x)] = F(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-jux} dx \quad (\text{angular frequency, non unitary})$$

$$FT_{uaf}[f(x)] = F(u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) e^{-jux} dx \quad (\text{angular frequency, unitary})$$

Ordinary frequency (unitary)

Since sinc function is an entire function (**please check the definition of entire function in complex analysis**), and sinc function decays with x, hence we slightly **shift the contour of integration** to avoid singularity.

$$\begin{aligned} FT_{of}[\sin x / x] &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\sin x / x) e^{-j2\pi ux} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty+\epsilon j}^{+\infty+\epsilon j} (\sin x / x) e^{-j2\pi ux} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty+\epsilon j}^{+\infty+\epsilon j} ((e^{jx} - e^{-jx}) / (2jx)) e^{-j2\pi ux} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty+\epsilon j}^{+\infty+\epsilon j} e^{jx(1-2\pi u)} / (2jx) dx - \int_{-\infty+\epsilon j}^{+\infty+\epsilon j} e^{-jx(1+2\pi u)} / (2jx) dx \end{aligned}$$

Substitute $x' = x(1-2\pi u)$ for first integral and substitute $x'' = x(1+2\pi u)$ for second integral, we have :

$$FT_{of}[\sin x / x] = \int_{x'_0}^{x'_1} e^{jx'} / (2jx') dx' - \int_{x''_0}^{x''_1} e^{jx''} / (2jx'') dx''$$

The key is to figure out the integration range (x'_0 , x'_1) and (x''_0 , x''_1), which depend on location of u in complex space.

- if u lies outside the rectangle, then the sign in substitution x' and x'' are the same (**why? what rectangle?**)
- if u lies inside the rectangle, then the sign in substitution x' and x'' are different (**why? what rectangle?**)

$$\begin{aligned} FT_{of}[\sin x / x] &= \begin{cases} \int_{x'_0}^{x'_1} e^{jx'} / (2jx') dx' - \int_{x''_0}^{x''_1} e^{jx''} / (2jx'') dx'' & \text{if } x \notin \text{rect} \\ \int_{x'_0}^{x'_1} e^{jx'} / (2jx') dx' + \int_{x''_0}^{x''_1} e^{jx''} / (2jx'') dx'' & \text{if } x \in \text{rect} \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \notin \text{rect} \\ \oint_{\text{rect}} e^{jx} / (2jx) dx & \text{if } x \in \text{rect} \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \notin \text{rect} \\ 2\pi & \text{if } x \in \text{rect} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Since $\oint_{\text{rect}} e^{jx} / (2jx) dx$ encloses the pole (at origin), hence the value of $\oint_{\text{rect}} e^{jx} / (2jx) dx$ is 2π (**why?**).