

# 1. Introduction to the Fourier Transform

Review: Complex Numbers

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$i^2 = -1$$

$$z = a + bi$$

Real Imaginary Part

$$|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

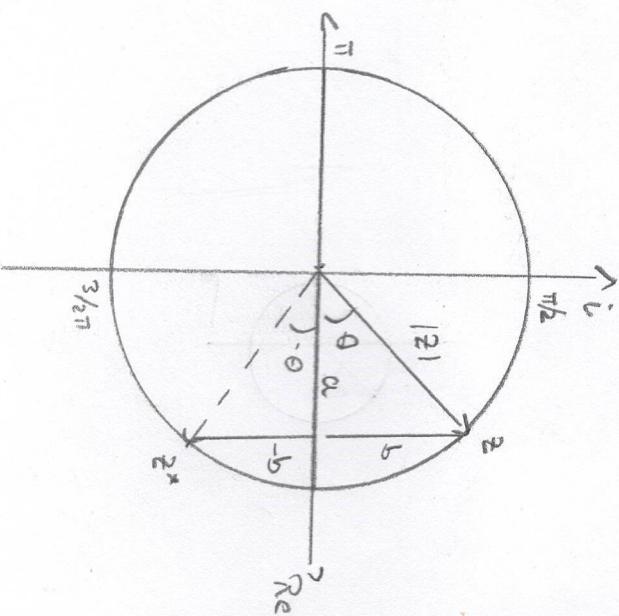
$$z^* = a - bi \quad \text{"complex conjugate"}$$

$$a = \cos(\theta)$$

$$b = \sin(\theta)$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{b}{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \arctan\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$$



## Euler's Identity

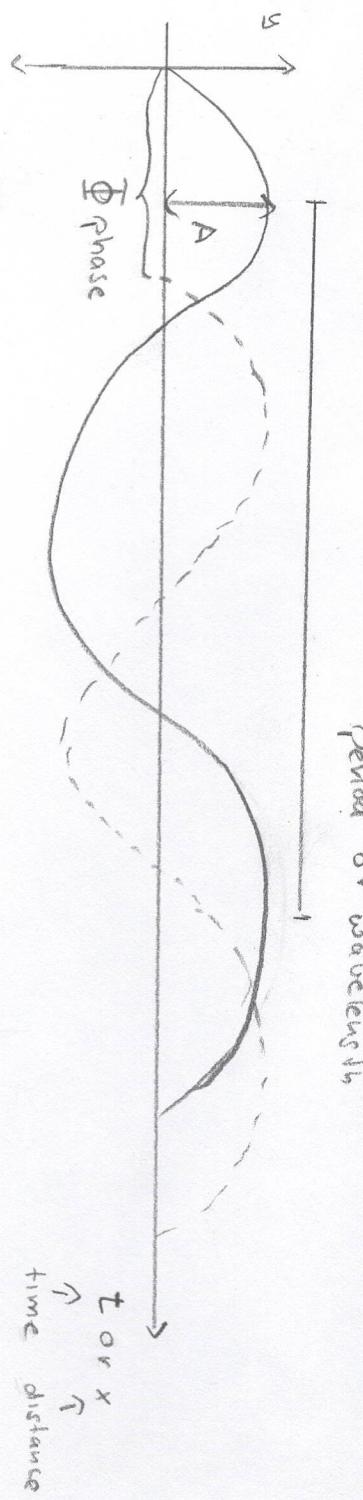
$$\exp(i\theta) = \cos(\theta) + i\sin(\theta)$$

$$\exp(i\pi) = \underbrace{\cos(\pi)}_{-1} + \underbrace{i\sin(\pi)}_0 = -1$$

$$z = a + bi = |z| \exp(i\theta)$$

$$z^* = a - bi = |z| \exp(-i\theta)$$

## Properties of waves



A: Amplitude

T: Period [s]

f: frequency =  $\frac{1}{T}$  [ $\frac{1}{s}$ ] [Hz]

λ: wavelength [m]

v: wavelength  $\frac{1}{\lambda}$  [ $\frac{1}{m}$ ]

$$y(t) = A \cos(2\pi f t + \phi) \quad \text{Time domain}$$

$$y(x) = A \cos(2\pi v x + \phi) \quad \text{Space domain}$$

Sum of angles

$$\cos(a+b) = \cos(a)\cos(b) - \sin(a)\sin(b)$$

$$y(t) = A \cos(2\pi f t + \phi)$$

$$y(t) = A \cos(2\pi f t) \cos(\phi) - A \sin(2\pi f t) \sin(\phi)$$

$$y(t) = a \cos(cx) + b \sin(cx)$$

$$a_n = A \cos(c\phi)$$

$$b_n = -A \sin(c\phi)$$

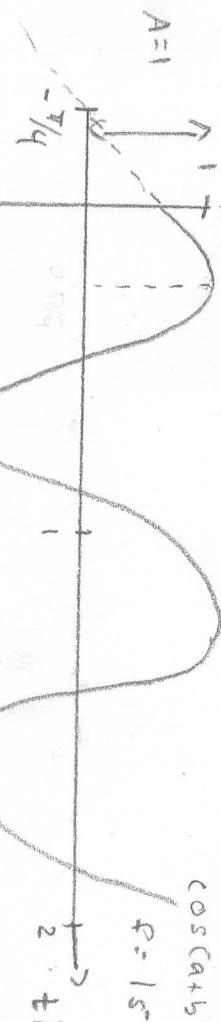
$$x = 2\pi f t$$

$$\phi = -\frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\cos(a+b) = \cos(a)\cos(b) - \sin(a)\sin(b)$$

$$\phi = 15^\circ$$

$$2 \cdot 15^\circ$$



$$y(t) = \cos(2\pi f t - \pi/4)$$

$$y(t) = A \cos(\pi/4) \cos(2\pi f t) - A \sin(\pi/4) \sin(2\pi f t)$$

Fourier Series: Expansion of a periodic function into a sum of trigonometric functions

$$y(t) = \text{mean} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k \cos(2\pi \frac{k}{N} t + \phi_k)$$

$$y(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cos(2\pi \frac{k}{N} t) + b_k \sin(2\pi \frac{k}{N} t)$$

$$f = 1 \text{ Hz}$$

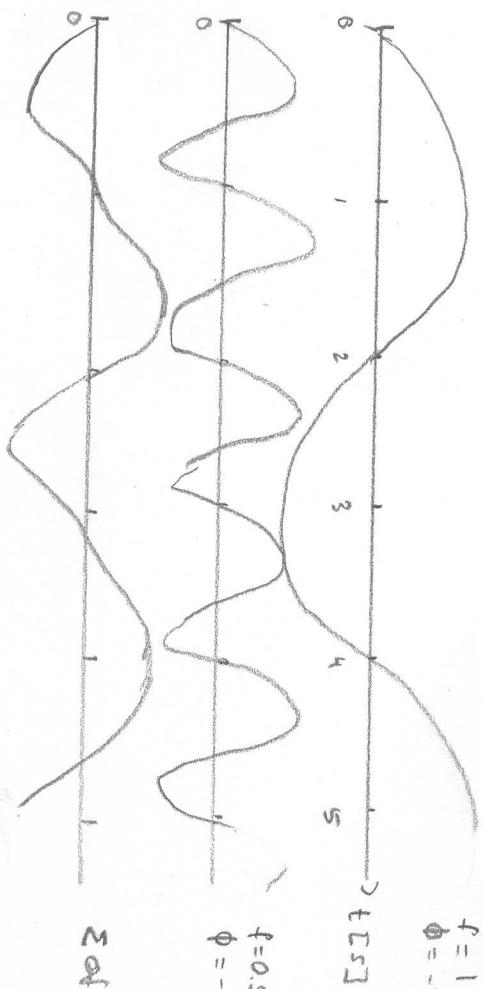
$$\phi = -90^\circ$$

$N$ : Period

$$\frac{k}{N} : \text{Frequency}$$

$$f = 0.5 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\phi = -90^\circ$$



$\Sigma$  of waves  $\Rightarrow$  • mean zero  
• periodic function

" represent periodic function with period  
N using Fourier series "

$$\frac{1}{N} \left( \frac{1}{5s} \right) \text{ lowest frequency}$$

$$\frac{1}{N} \left( \frac{\infty}{5s} \right) \text{ highest frequency}$$

### Fourier Series in the Complex Domain

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cos(kx) + b_k \sin(kx)$$

$x = 2\pi \frac{k}{N} t$

$$\begin{cases} \exp(ix) = \cos(x) + i \sin(x) \\ \exp(-ix) = \cos(x) - i \sin(x) \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (a_k - ib_k) \exp(ix) = \frac{1}{2} a_k \cos(kx) + \frac{1}{2} a_k i \sin(kx) - \frac{1}{2} ib_k \cos(kx) + \frac{1}{2} b_k \sin(kx)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (a_k + ib_k) \exp(-ix) = \frac{1}{2} a_k \cos(kx) - \frac{1}{2} a_k i \sin(kx) + \frac{1}{2} ib_k \cos(kx) + \frac{1}{2} b_k \sin(kx)$$

$$X_k \exp(ix) + X_k \exp(-ix) = a_k \cos(kx) + b_k \sin(kx)$$

$$X_k = \frac{1}{2} (a_k + ib_k)$$

$$X_k^* = \frac{1}{2} (a_k - ib_k)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{X_k \cdot X_k^*} = A \quad (\text{Amplitude})$$

$$\tan^{-1} \left( \frac{b_k}{a_k} \right) = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\text{Im}(X_k)}{\text{Re}(X_k)} \right) = \phi \quad (\text{Phase angle})$$

$$y(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} X_k \exp(-ikx)$$

note:  $\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{X_0 X_0^*} = \frac{1}{2} a_0 = \text{mean}$

each real frequency (e.g.  $k=1$ ) has two  $X$  coefficients

Discrete Fourier Transform: how to find  $x_n$ ?

Fourier Series

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x_n \exp(-inx)$$

$$x = 2\pi \frac{k}{N} t$$

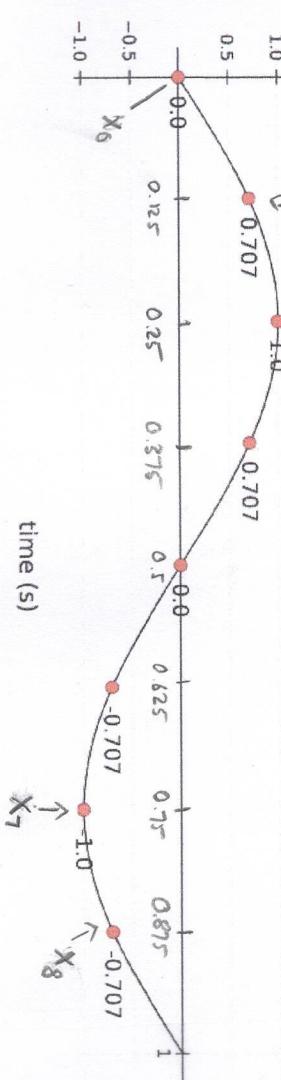
Infinite series representing an N-periodic function in the time domain  $\Rightarrow$  infinite  $x_n$

Discrete Fourier Series

$$x_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} y(k) \exp(-ikx)$$

$$x = 2\pi \frac{k}{N} n$$

Finite sequence of N equally spaced samples of a function  $y(t)$



$$y(t) = \sin(2\pi t)$$

$f = 8 \text{ Hz}$  "sample frequency"

$$\Delta t = \frac{1}{8} = 0.125 \text{ s}$$

$N = 8$  points

$$y_0 = 0$$

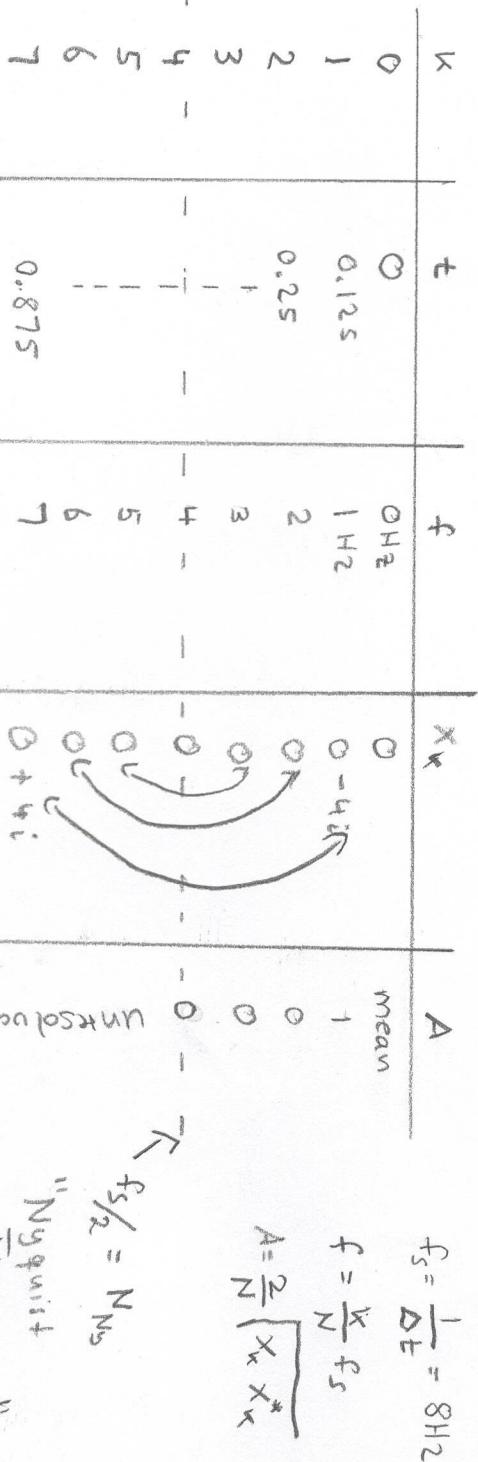
$$y_2 = 1.0$$

How to find  $X_k$ ?

$$X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} y_n \exp(-ix) \quad x = 2\pi \frac{k}{N} n$$

$\Rightarrow$  N Fourier coefficients  $X_k$  for N sample points

$$X_0 = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \quad \Rightarrow \text{sample mean} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n = \frac{1}{N} X_0$$



$$f_s/2 = N_{Nyq}$$

"Nyquist Frequency"

$$X_1 = X_7^*$$

How to find  $X_k$ ?

$$X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \exp(-ix_n)$$
 each  $X_k$  requires  $N$  additions

thus need  $N \times N = N^2$  operations

$$\text{DFT} = O(N^2) \Rightarrow \text{slow if } N \text{ is large}$$

FFT: Fast Fourier Transform

- implemented as `fft(x)` in most languages
- requires  $2^N$  data points  
16, 32, 64, ...
- $O(N \log N)$

## Example Reconstruction: DFT of 3 waves

$$y(t) = A \cos(2\pi f t + \phi)$$

Sum of three waves

$$A_1 = 1 \quad f_1 = 2 \text{ Hz} \quad \phi_1 = 15^\circ$$

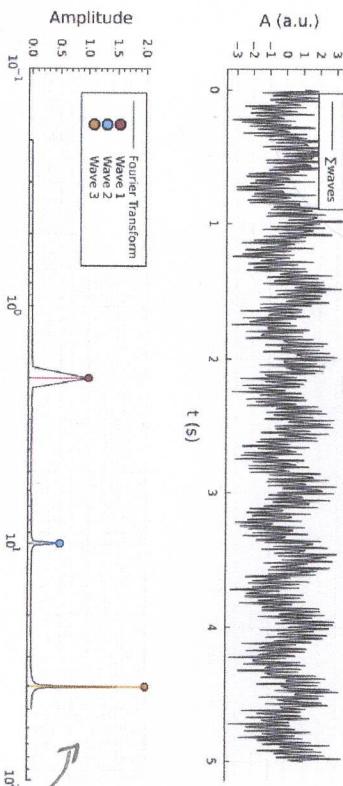
$$A_2 = 0.5 \quad f_2 = 10 \text{ Hz} \quad \phi_2 = 77^\circ$$

$$A_3 = 2 \quad f_3 = 40 \text{ Hz} \quad \phi_3 = 270^\circ$$

$$N = 500 \text{ points}$$

$$\Delta t = 0.01 \text{ s}$$

$$f_s = 100 \text{ Hz}$$



Amplitude Spectrum

- Plot of  $f$  vs.  $A$

- Peaks recover  $f_i$
- smeared due to resolution (leakage)

- Peaks recover  $A_i$

Phase spectrum

- $f$  vs.  $\phi$
- typically noisy

Fourier Table for 3 wave example

$\text{fft}(x)$

k	f	$x$	A	$\theta$
1	0	0.0	1.0784+0.0im	0.00431361 0.0
2	0.2	1.08794+0.0882485im	0.00435444	2.01351
3	0.4	1.11773+0.0785267im	0.00448195	4.01843
4	0.6	1.17173+0.123278im	0.0047128	6.00599
5	0.8	1.25807+0.176076im	0.00508134	7.9616
6	1.0	1.39262+0.242862im	0.00565457	9.89243
7	1.2	1.60812+0.335121im	0.00657065	11.7716
8	1.4	1.98165+0.479166im	0.00815603	13.5933
9	1.6	2.74408+0.753041im	0.0113821	15.345
10	1.8	5.03318+1.53995im	0.021054	17.0121
: more				
251	250	50.0	-6.03357+0.0im	0.0241343 180.0

$$f = \frac{\omega}{N}$$

$$\omega = 1 \Rightarrow f = \frac{100\text{Hz}}{500} = 0.2\text{Hz}$$

lowest resolved frequency

$$f_{Ny} = \frac{f_2}{2} = 50\text{Hz} \quad (\omega = 250)$$

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N} |X_k X_k^*|}$$

$$\phi = \text{atan} \left( \frac{\text{Im}(X_k)}{\text{Re}(X_k)} \right)$$

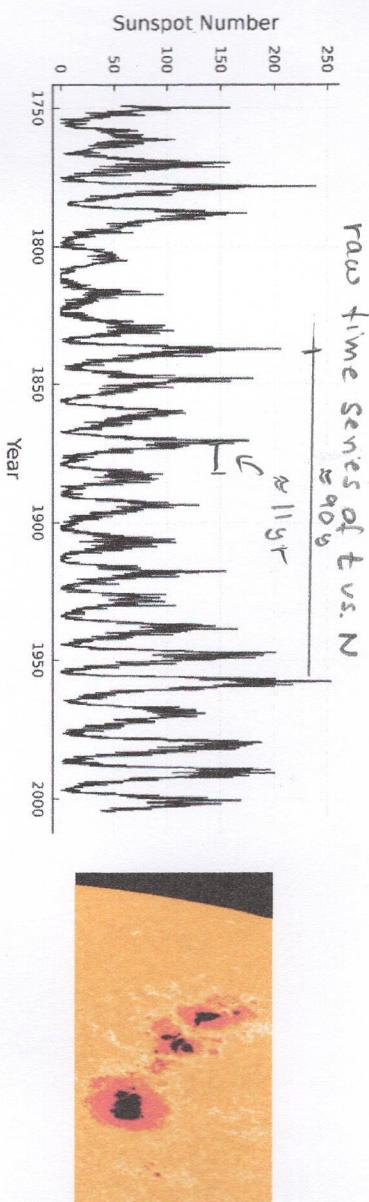
typically in radians

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \left( \phi - \frac{180}{\pi} + 360 \right) \bmod 360$$

modulo is

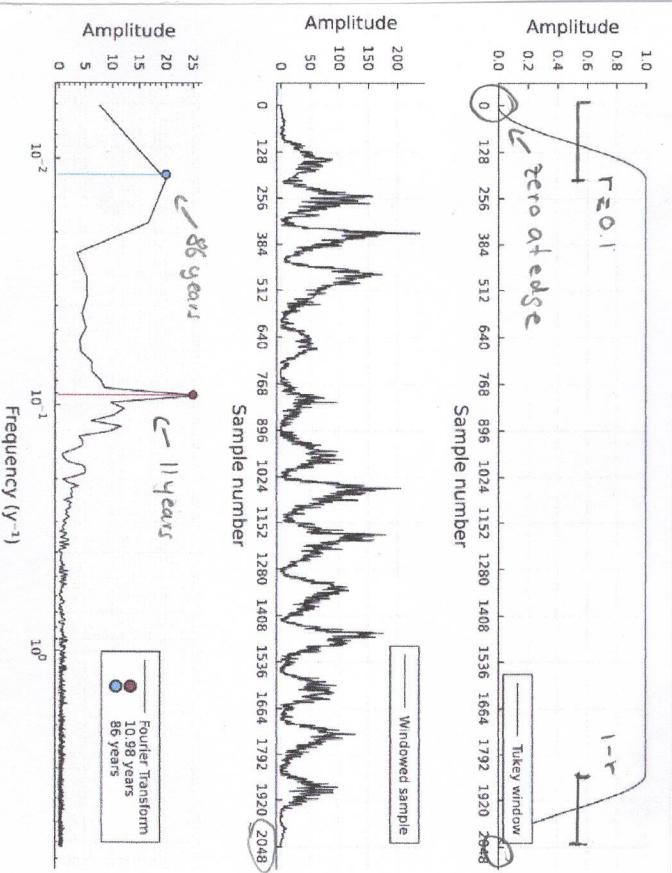
the remainder  
of division

### Example application: Sunspot cycle



- check if dataset is clean (equal  $\Delta t$ , fix missing data)
- check resolution  $\Delta t \approx 0.08$  y
- $f = \frac{1}{\Delta t} = 12.5$  y $^{-1}$
- $f_{\mu_0} = 6.25$  y $^{-1}$
- evaluate time series by plotting
- evaluate length of data: 3067 data points

## DFT analysis



(1)  $\overline{DFT}$  requires  $2^n$  points  
 $2^n = 2048$        $2^{12} = 4096$   
 record len 3067

→ pick 2048 points

(2)  $\overline{DFT}/FFT$  is for N periodic functions  
 → data may not be for selected subset

window function

$$(3) w = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} [1 + \cos(\frac{2\pi}{r} [x - \frac{r}{2}])] & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{r}{2} \\ 1 & \frac{r}{2} < x \leq 1 - \frac{r}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} [1 + \cos(\frac{2\pi}{r} [x - 1 + \frac{r}{2}])] & 1 - \frac{r}{2} < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$r$  is a fraction

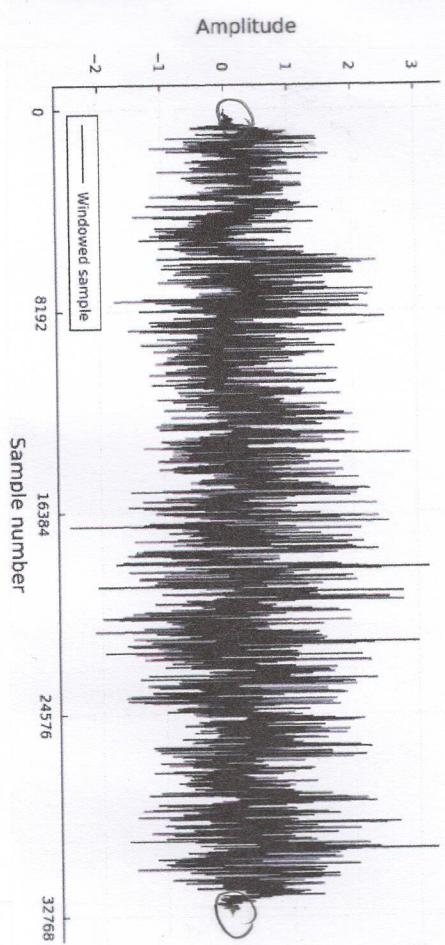
data used in  $\text{fft}(x)$  is  $x[1:2048].w(x)$  (windowed sample)

DFT table for sunspot example

k	f	x	A	$\theta$
1	0	0.0	83709.7+0.0im	(40.8739) 0.0
2	1	0.00610352	-7833.07-89.1831im	7.64998
3	2	0.012207	-10183.3-17659.2im	19.9072
4	3	0.0183105	-15789.9+6492.85im	16.6726
5	4	0.0244141	183.586-3533.23im	157.647
6	5	0.0305176	-5398.21+399.728im	3.45507
7	6	0.0366211	-1474.74-5275.08im	87.0256
8	7	0.0427246	-2306.99+3858.64im	5.28612
9	8	0.0488281	83.3539+5241.94im	175.765
10	9	0.0549316	-2809.03-2938.31im	5.34897
				$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum x_i$
				mean of subsampled and windowed data
				- check against calculation
				mean directly
				$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum x_i$
				more
1025	(1024) 6.25	-541.718+0.0im	0.529022	180.0

$$f_{Ny} = 6.25 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$\widehat{Df_1}/\widehat{f_1 f_2}$  of turbulence data



$N = 2^{15} = 32768$  points

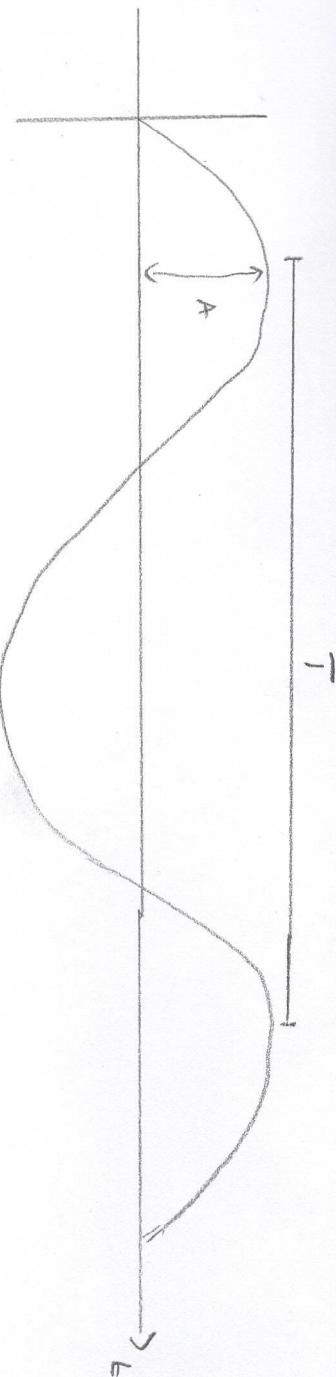
$$\Delta t = 0.15$$

$$f_s = 10 \text{ Hz} \quad f_{Nyq} = 5 \text{ Hz}$$

$$A \text{ has units! } \text{m/s}$$

data is windowed

### Power of a wave



### waves in Physics

- string wave

wavelength

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \mu \omega^2 r A^2$$

$\uparrow$  mass frequency

Energy

$\uparrow$  amplitude

- ocean wave

wave density

$$E = \frac{1}{8} g S H^2$$

$\uparrow$  gravity

wave height

- light wave

$$I = \frac{1}{2} c \epsilon_0 E_0^2$$

$\uparrow$  electric wave amplitude

$\uparrow$  speed of light

Intensity

Energy of a pulse

$$E = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |g(t)|^2 dt$$

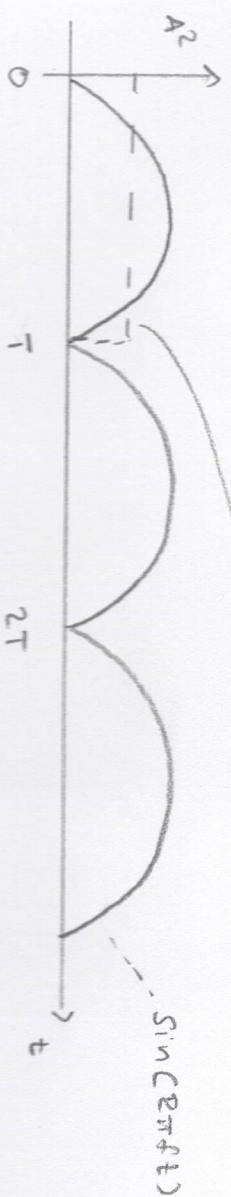
↑  
arbitrary signal

$$\text{Power} = \frac{\text{Energy}}{\text{time}}$$

$$P = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T g^2(t) dt$$

power of a cyclical signal with  
period  $T$

$$P = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [A \sin(2\pi f t)]^2 dt = \frac{1}{2} A^2 = A_{\text{avg}}^2$$

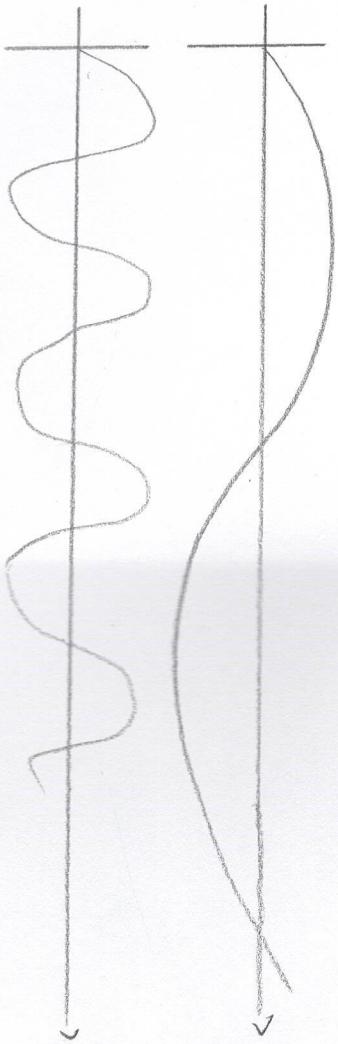


Random Process

$$P = \bar{E} C X^2 = \text{variance of signal}$$

↑  
expectation Random  
value variable

Signal  $y(t)$



$$\hat{P}_1 = \frac{1}{2} A^2$$

$$\hat{P}_2 = \frac{1}{2} A_2$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \hat{P}_L = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} A_i^2 = \text{Var}$$
$$\sum_{k=1}^N \hat{P}_i = \text{Var}$$

DFT Table of vertical velocity data

$$A: [m/s]$$

$$\hat{P}: [m^2/s^2]$$

k	f [Hz]	X	A [m/s]	P [m <sup>2</sup> /s <sup>2</sup> ]
mean				
1	0	0.0 $\int \Delta f$	6605.28+0.0im	0.0812666
2	1	0.000305176	321.645+187.304im	0.0227177
3	2	0.000610352	516.103+887.738im	0.0626746
4	3	0.000915527	-644.831-49.2019im	0.0394718
5	4	0.0012207	168.242+209.318im	0.016391
6	5	0.00152588	772.533+97.5288im	0.047526
7	6	0.00183105	-1675.72-1007.32im	0.119335
8	7	0.00213623	-1114.94-98.3688im	0.0683146
9	8	0.00244141	9.2303+988.143im	0.0603141
10	9	0.00274658	505.846-364.321im	0.0380484
more				
16385	16384	5.0	-9.86553+0.0im	0.000602144
				1.81289e-7

$$\hat{P}_k = \frac{1}{2} A_k^2$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{N/2} \hat{P}_k = \text{Var}(y_c)$$

always check

mean, var from data

==== mean, var from DFT

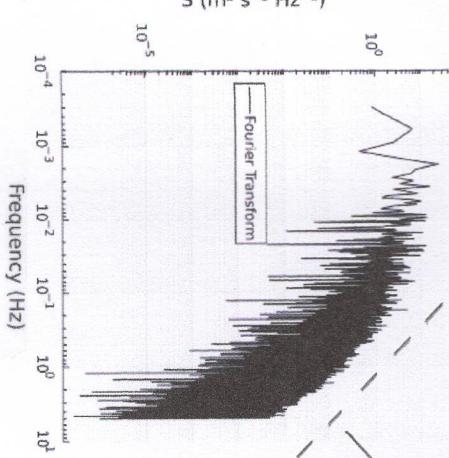
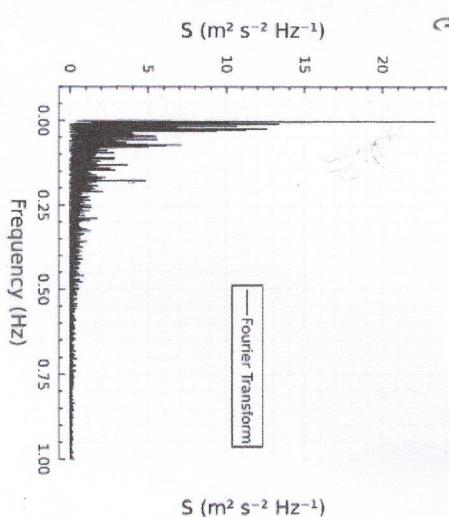
$$S = \frac{\hat{P}}{\Delta f} \quad [ \frac{m^2}{s^2 \cdot Hz} ]$$

↑ power spectral density

$$\text{Var} = \int S df$$

## Power Spectrum

Power spectral density



Slope of  $S$  vs.  $f$   
in log-log space  
has meaning in  
turbulence theory

- Same on log-log plot
- Area under curve  $\neq$  Var
- reveals structure of data

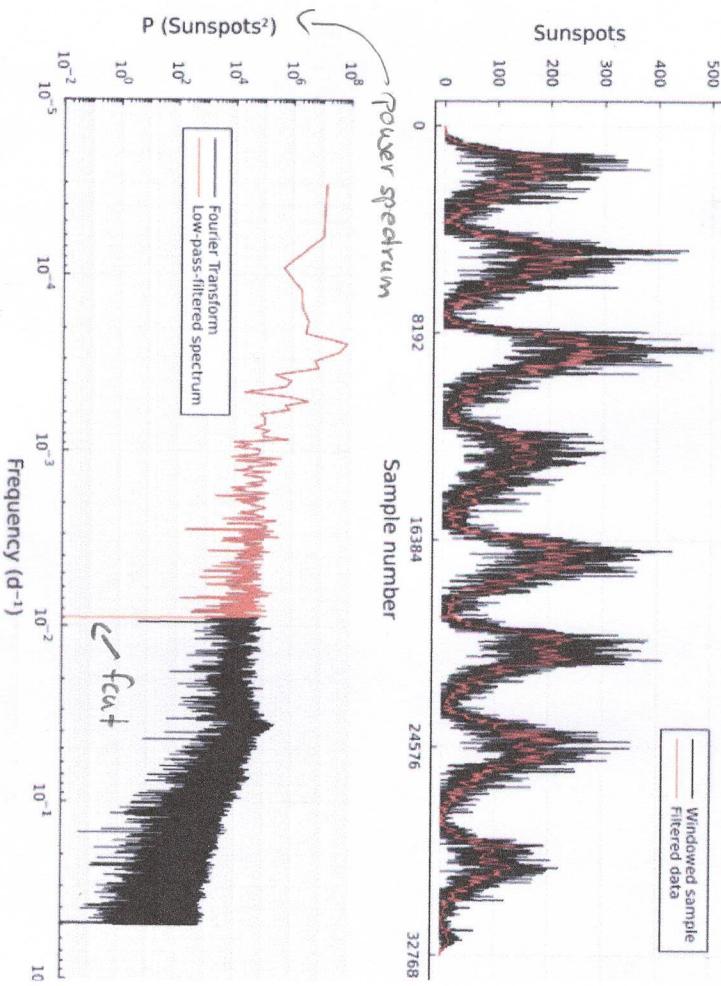
Plot of  $S$  vs.  $f$

reveals spectral contribution

to variance

$$\text{Var} = \int S df$$

Application: Frequency Filtering of Data (High frequency sunspot data)



(1) window data  $y_n$

$$(2) X_n = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \exp(-ix)$$

$$(3) \hat{x}_k = \frac{1}{2} x_n X_k^*$$

(4) remove unwanted frequencies

low-pass: zero  $X_k$  for  $f < f_{cut}$

must zero also  $X_k^*$ !

$$(5) x_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_k \exp(-ix)$$

[use ifft]

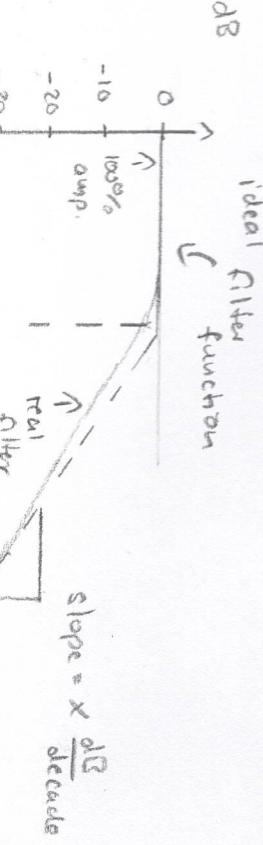
## Filtering continued

$$\text{Decibel} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{P_1}{P_0} \right)$$

gain / loss in power relative  
to reference Power  $P_0$

note -  $10 \text{ dB} =$

order of  
magnitude  
reduction  
in Power



$$\text{slope} = X \frac{\text{dB}}{\text{decade}}$$



Passband

Stopband

[Hz]

## Fourier Transform of Functions

Discrete

$$X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \exp(-i 2\pi \frac{k}{N} n) \quad n \text{ data} \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{in Fourier coefficients}$$

$N$ : Period of data

Fourier Series

$$\tilde{f}(w) = \sum_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-i 2\pi \frac{w}{N} t) \quad \text{continuous } f(t) \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{infinite Fourier coefficients}$$

$N$ -periodic function

Fourier Integral:  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_k}{N} = w$  "oscillation frequency"

$$\tilde{f}(w) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-i 2\pi w t) dt \quad \text{continuous } f(t) \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{continuous } w$$

non-periodic converts

$$f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{f}(w) \exp(i 2\pi w t) dw \quad \text{to zero flux}$$

$w = 2\pi v$  "angular frequency"

$$\tilde{f}(w) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-i \omega t) dt$$

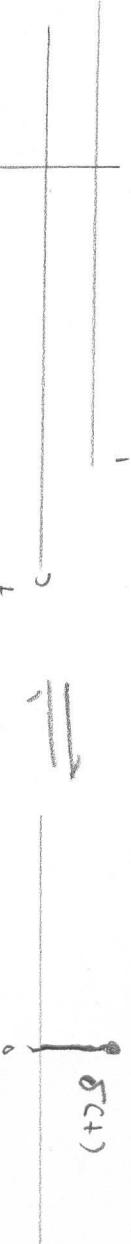
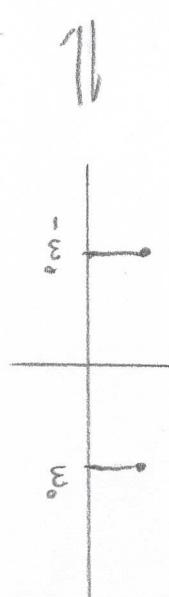
$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{f}(w) \exp(i \omega t) dw$$

Example Transforms

$\mathcal{F}(c)$

$$\cos(\omega_0 t)$$

$\mathcal{F}(\omega)$



$$\delta(t) = \begin{cases} \infty & t=0 \\ 0 & t \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

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

$t$  - domain

$\omega$  - domain

### Applications of Fourier Integral

(1) derivatives become algebraic functions

$$\text{Fourier Transform of } f'(t) \rightarrow F(\omega') = -i\omega F(\omega)$$

(2) convolutions become multiplication

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

$$f \circ g = \int f(t) g(t-\tau) dt \Rightarrow \text{session ??}$$

## Laplace Transform

$$\text{Fourier } \int \mathcal{F}(f(t)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-i\omega t) dt$$

$$\text{Laplace } \mathcal{L}(f(t)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-st) dt$$

$s = \alpha - i\omega$   $\Rightarrow$  Fourier transform is special case of Laplace transform

more functions have Laplace transform  $\Rightarrow$  need not converge at  $\infty$

t-domain



s-domain