

# ECE 161A: Discrete Time Fourier Transform

Florian Meyer  
University of California, San Diego  
Email: [flmeyer@ucsd.edu](mailto:flmeyer@ucsd.edu)

# Discrete Time Fourier Transform

$$X(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]e^{-j\omega n}$$
$$x[n] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} X(e^{j\omega})e^{j\omega n} d\omega$$

Will use the notation  $X(e^{j\omega}) = \mathcal{F}(x[n])$ .  $X(e^{j\omega})$  is periodic with periodicity  $2\pi$ ,  $X(e^{j\omega}) = X(e^{j(\omega+2\pi)})$ .

## Some Observations

- ▶  $\omega$  is referred to as the normalized frequency.
- ▶ Definition consistent with the definition of the continuous time Fourier transform and related through the sampling theorem.
- ▶  $x[n]$  can be viewed as the Fourier series coefficients.

# Fourier Series Connection

## DTFT

$$\begin{aligned}X(e^{j\omega}) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]e^{-j\omega n} \\x[n] &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} X(e^{j\omega})e^{j\omega n}d\omega\end{aligned}$$

## Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}x_c(t) &= x_c(t + T_0) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{jk\Omega_0 t}, \text{ where } \Omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T_0} \\c_k &= \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x_c(t) e^{-jk\Omega_0 t} dt\end{aligned}$$

Connection  $X(e^{j\omega}) \leftrightarrow x_c(t)$  and  $x[n] \leftrightarrow c_k$ .

At a variable level we have  $t \leftrightarrow \omega$ ,  $T_0 \leftrightarrow 2\pi$ , and  $\Omega_0 \leftrightarrow 1$ .

# Magnitude and Phase

$$X(e^{j\omega}) = |X(e^{j\omega})|e^{j\angle X(e^{j\omega})} = X_R(e^{j\omega}) + jX_I(e^{j\omega})$$

$$|X(e^{j\omega})| = \sqrt{X_R^2(e^{j\omega}) + X_I^2(e^{j\omega})} \text{ and } \angle X(e^{j\omega}) = \arctan \frac{X_I(e^{j\omega})}{X_R(e^{j\omega})}$$

- ▶ Magnitude is usually plotted in db scale, i.e.  $20 \log_{10} |X(e^{j\omega})|$ .
- ▶ Phase: there are two popular options
  - ▶  $\text{ARG}(X(e^{j\omega}))$  is  $\angle X(e^{j\omega})$  limited to the range  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .
  - ▶  $\text{arg}(X(e^{j\omega}))$  is  $\angle X(e^{j\omega})$  computed as a continuous function of  $\omega$  (unwrapped phase).

**Table 2.3** FOURIER TRANSFORM PAIRS

TABLE 2.3	FOURIER TRANSFORM PAIRS	
Sequence	Fourier Transform	
1. $\delta[n]$	1	
2. $\delta[n - n_0]$	$e^{-j\omega n_0}$	
3. 1 $(-\infty < n < \infty)$	$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} 2\pi \delta(\omega + 2\pi k)$	
4. $a^n u[n]$ $( a  < 1)$	$\frac{1}{1 - ae^{-j\omega}}$	
5. $u[n]$	$\frac{1}{1 - e^{-j\omega}} + \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \pi \delta(\omega + 2\pi k)$	
6. $(n + 1)a^n u[n]$ $( a  < 1)$	$\frac{1}{(1 - ae^{-j\omega})^2}$	
7. $\frac{r^n \sin \omega_p(n + 1)}{\sin \omega_p} u[n]$ $( r  < 1)$	$\frac{1}{1 - 2r \cos \omega_p e^{-j\omega} + r^2 e^{-j2\omega}}$	
8. $\frac{\sin \omega_c n}{\pi n}$	$X(e^{j\omega}) = \begin{cases} 1, &  \omega  < \omega_c, \\ 0, & \omega_c <  \omega  \leq \pi \end{cases}$	
9. $x[n] = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq n \leq M \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	$\frac{\sin[(M + 1)/2]}{\sin(\omega/2)} e^{-j\omega M/2}$	
10. $e^{j\omega_0 n}$	$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} 2\pi \delta(\omega - \omega_0 + 2\pi k)$	
11. $\cos(\omega_0 n + \phi)$	$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} [\pi e^{j\phi} \delta(\omega - \omega_0 + 2\pi k) + \pi e^{-j\phi} \delta(\omega + \omega_0 + 2\pi k)]$	

# Examples

Delta function:

$$x[n] = \delta[n] \leftrightarrow X(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta[n] e^{-j\omega n} = 1.$$

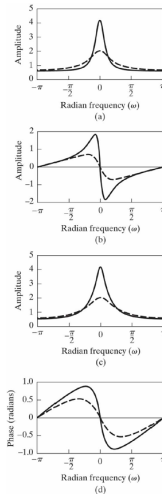
Delayed Delta function:

$$x[n] = \delta[n-n_0] \leftrightarrow X(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta[n-n_0] e^{-j\omega n} = e^{-j\omega n_0}.$$

Exponential sequence:  $x[n] = a^n u[n]$ ,  $|a| < 1$ , has DTFT

$$X(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a^n u[n] e^{-j\omega n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (ae^{-j\omega})^n = \frac{1}{1 - ae^{-j\omega}}$$

**Figure 2.22** Frequency response for a system with impulse response  $h[n] = a^n u[n]$ . (a) Real part.  $a > 0$ ;  $a = 0.75$  (solid curve) and  $a = 0.5$  (dashed curve). (b) Imaginary part. (c) Magnitude.  $a > 0$ ;  $a = 0.75$  (solid curve) and  $a = 0.5$  (dashed curve). (d) Phase.



**Table 2.2** FOURIER TRANSFORM THEOREMS

**TABLE 2.2** FOURIER TRANSFORM THEOREMS

Sequence	Fourier Transform
$x[n]$	$X(e^{j\omega})$
$y[n]$	$Y(e^{j\omega})$
1. $ax[n] + by[n]$	$aX(e^{j\omega}) + bY(e^{j\omega})$
2. $x[n - n_d]$ ( $n_d$ an integer)	$e^{-j\omega n_d} X(e^{j\omega})$
3. $e^{j\omega_0 n} x[n]$	$X(e^{j(\omega - \omega_0)})$
4. $x[-n]$	$X(e^{-j\omega})$ $X^*(e^{j\omega})$ if $x[n]$ real.
5. $nx[n]$	$j \frac{dX(e^{j\omega})}{d\omega}$
6. $x[n] * y[n]$	$X(e^{j\omega})Y(e^{j\omega})$
7. $x[n]y[n]$	$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} X(e^{j\theta})Y(e^{j(\omega - \theta)})d\theta$
Parseval's theorem:	
8. $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}  x[n] ^2$	$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi}  X(e^{j\omega}) ^2 d\omega$
9. $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]y^*[n]$	$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} X(e^{j\omega})Y^*(e^{j\omega})d\omega$



# Time Shifting

Time Shifting:  $x[n - n_d] \leftrightarrow e^{-j\omega n_d} X(e^{j\omega})$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}(x[n - n_d]) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n - n_d] e^{-j\omega n} \\&= \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} x[m] e^{-j\omega(m+n_d)} \quad (\text{Change of variables } m = n - n_d) \\&= e^{-j\omega n_d} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} x[m] e^{-j\omega m} = e^{-j\omega n_d} X(e^{j\omega})\end{aligned}$$

# Modulation

Modulation:  $e^{j\omega_0 n} x[n] \leftrightarrow X(e^{j(\omega-\omega_0)})$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}(e^{j\omega_0 n} x[n]) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{j\omega_0 n} x[n] e^{-j\omega n} \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n] e^{-j(\omega-\omega_0)n} \\ &= X(e^{j(\omega-\omega_0)})\end{aligned}$$

# Convolution

$$x[n] * y[n] \leftrightarrow X(e^{j\omega})Y(e^{j\omega})$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}(x[n] * y[n]) &= \mathcal{F}\left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]y[n-k]\right) \\&= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]\mathcal{F}(y[n-k]) \text{ (Linearity)} \\&= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x[k]e^{-j\omega k}Y(e^{j\omega}) \text{ (Time Shifting)} \\&= X(e^{j\omega})Y(e^{j\omega})\end{aligned}$$

# LTI Systems and Convolutions

$$y[n] = h[n] * x[n] \leftrightarrow Y(e^{j\omega}) = H(e^{j\omega})X(e^{j\omega})$$

$h[n] \leftrightarrow H(e^{j\omega})$  and  $H(e^{j\omega})$  is the frequency response (transfer function) of the LTI system.

LTI systems and complex exponential inputs: Consider input  $x[n] = e^{j\omega_0 n}$ .

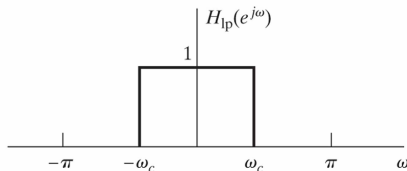
$$\begin{aligned} y[n] &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k]x[n-k] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k]e^{j\omega_0(n-k)} \\ &= e^{j\omega_0 n} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k]e^{-j\omega_0 k} = e^{j\omega_0 n} H(e^{j\omega_0}) \end{aligned}$$

Complex exponential input leads to a scaled complex exponential at the output with the scaling determined by the Transfer function. They are referred as eigenfunctions of LTI systems.

Input:  $x[n] = \sum_k c_k e^{j\omega_k n}$ . Output: By the linearity property  
 $y[n] = \sum_k c_k H(e^{j\omega_k}) e^{j\omega_k n}$

# Parseval's Theorem

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |x[n]|^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |X(e^{j\omega})|^2 d\omega$$



$$X(e^{j\omega}) = \begin{cases} 1, & -\omega_c \leq \omega \leq \omega_c \\ 0, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad x[n] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\omega_c}^{\omega_c} e^{-j\omega n} d\omega = \frac{\sin \omega_c n}{\pi n}$$

From Parseval's Theorem

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |x[n]|^2 = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\sin \omega_c n}{\pi n} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\omega_c}^{\omega_c} d\omega = \frac{\omega_c}{\pi}$$

**Table 2.1** SYMMETRY PROPERTIES OF THE FOURIER TRANSFORM

**TABLE 2.1** SYMMETRY PROPERTIES OF THE FOURIER TRANSFORM

Sequence $x[n]$	Fourier Transform $X(e^{j\omega})$
1. $x^*[n]$	$X^*(e^{-j\omega})$
2. $x^*[-n]$	$X^*(e^{j\omega})$
3. $\mathcal{R}\{x[n]\}$	$X_e(e^{j\omega})$ (conjugate-symmetric part of $X(e^{j\omega})$ )
4. $j\mathcal{I}\{x[n]\}$	$X_o(e^{j\omega})$ (conjugate-antisymmetric part of $X(e^{j\omega})$ )
5. $x_e[n]$ (conjugate-symmetric part of $x[n]$ )	$X_R(e^{j\omega}) = \mathcal{R}\{X(e^{j\omega})\}$
6. $x_o[n]$ (conjugate-antisymmetric part of $x[n]$ )	$jX_I(e^{j\omega}) = j\mathcal{I}\{X(e^{j\omega})\}$
<i>The following properties apply only when <math>x[n]</math> is real:</i>	
7. Any real $x[n]$	$X(e^{j\omega}) = X^*(e^{-j\omega})$ (Fourier transform is conjugate symmetric)
8. Any real $x[n]$	$X_R(e^{j\omega}) = X_R(e^{-j\omega})$ (real part is even)
9. Any real $x[n]$	$X_I(e^{j\omega}) = -X_I(e^{-j\omega})$ (imaginary part is odd)
10. Any real $x[n]$	$ X(e^{j\omega})  =  X(e^{-j\omega}) $ (magnitude is even)
11. Any real $x[n]$	$\angle X(e^{j\omega}) = -\angle X(e^{-j\omega})$ (phase is odd)
12. $x_e[n]$ (even part of $x[n]$ )	$X_R(e^{j\omega})$
13. $x_o[n]$ (odd part of $x[n]$ )	$jX_I(e^{j\omega})$

Property 1:  $x^*[n] \leftrightarrow X^*(e^{-j\omega})$ .

$x[n] = x_R[n] + jx_I[n] \leftrightarrow X(e^{j\omega}) = X_R(e^{j\omega}) + jX_I(e^{j\omega})$ , then  
 $x^*[n] = x_R[n] - jx_I[n] \leftrightarrow X^*(e^{-j\omega}) = X_R(e^{-j\omega}) - jX_I(e^{-j\omega})$ .

Note:  $x_R[n]$  and  $X_R(e^{j\omega})$  are not Fourier transform pairs, i.e.  
 $x_R[n] \not\leftrightarrow X_R(e^{j\omega})$ .

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}(x^*[n]) &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x^*[n]e^{-j\omega n} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x^*[n](e^{j\omega n})^* = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (x[n]e^{j\omega n})^* \\ &= \left( \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (x[n]e^{j\omega n}) \right)^* = \left( \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (x[n]e^{-j(-\omega)n}) \right)^* \\ &= (X(e^{-j\omega}))^* = X^*(e^{-j\omega})\end{aligned}$$

Property 3:  $\text{Re}(x[n]) = x_R[n] = \frac{x[n] + x^*[n]}{2} \leftrightarrow X_c(e^{j\omega}) = \frac{X(e^{j\omega}) + X^*(e^{-j\omega})}{2}$ .  
 $X_c(e^{j\omega}) = X_c^*(e^{-j\omega})$  (Conjugate-Symmetric part of  $X(e^{j\omega})$ .)

Property 4:  $\text{Im}(x[n]) = jx_I[n] = \frac{x[n] - x^*[n]}{2} \leftrightarrow X_o(e^{j\omega}) = \frac{X(e^{j\omega}) - X^*(e^{-j\omega})}{2}$ .  
 $X_o(e^{j\omega}) = -X_o^*(e^{-j\omega})$  (Conjugate-Antisymmetric part of  $X(e^{j\omega})$ .)



# Real Sequences

For a real sequence  $x[n] = x^*[n]$ . Hence  $X(e^{j\omega}) = X^*(e^{-j\omega})$ .

Implications:

$|X(e^{j\omega})| = |X^*(e^{-j\omega})| = |X(e^{-j\omega})|$ . The magnitude of the DTFT is an even function. Sufficient to plot  $[0, \pi]$ .

$\angle X(e^{j\omega}) = \angle X^*(e^{-j\omega}) = -\angle X(e^{-j\omega})$ . The phase of the DTFT is an odd function. Sufficient to plot  $[0, \pi]$ .

$X(e^{j\omega}) = X^*(e^{-j\omega}) \rightarrow X_R(e^{j\omega}) + jX_I(e^{j\omega}) = X_R(e^{-j\omega}) - jX_I(e^{-j\omega})$ .  
Hence  $X_R(e^{j\omega}) = X_R(e^{-j\omega})$  and  $X_I(e^{j\omega}) = -X_I(e^{-j\omega})$ .

# Convergence of the Fourier Transform

$X(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]e^{-j\omega n}$ . Infinite sum and so may not exist for a given  $x[n]$ .

$$X_M(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-M}^M x[n]e^{-j\omega n} \xrightarrow{M \rightarrow \infty} X(e^{j\omega})$$

Complicated because it involves a sequence of functions. Behavior may vary with  $\omega$ .

Pointwise Convergence:  $\lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} X_M(e^{j\omega}) = X(e^{j\omega}) \quad \forall \omega$ .

Uniform Convergence:  $\{X_M(e^{j\omega})\}$  converges uniformly to  $X(e^{j\omega})$  if given any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a natural number  $N = N(\epsilon)$  such that

$$|X_M(e^{j\omega}) - X(e^{j\omega})| < \epsilon, \text{ for every } M > N \text{ and } \forall \omega.$$

Uniform convergence implies pointwise convergence but not the other way around.

The limit of a sequence of continuous functions converging uniformly is also continuous.

# Absolute Summability and Convergence

If the sequence is absolutely summable, the Fourier transform exists.

$$|X(e^{j\omega})| = \left| \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x[n]e^{-j\omega n} \right| \leq \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |x[n]e^{-j\omega n}| \leq \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |x[n]| < \infty$$

Can show: Converges uniformly to a continuous function.

For stable LTI systems, the Fourier transform always exists.

Reason: Stable LTI systems have an impulse response that is absolutely summable.

# Convergence Issues with Low Pass Filters

$$H(e^{j\omega}) = \begin{cases} 1, & -\omega_c \leq \omega \leq \omega_c \\ 0, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad h[n] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\omega_c}^{\omega_c} e^{-j\omega n} d\omega = \frac{\sin \omega_c n}{\pi n}$$

Challenges:

- ▶ Non-causal and infinite in duration
- ▶  $H_M(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-M}^M h[n]e^{-j\omega n}$  does not converge uniformly. Note that  $H_M(e^{j\omega}) = \sum_{n=-M}^M h[n]e^{-j\omega n}$  is a continuous function of  $\omega$  but the ideal lowpass filter is not
- ▶ The ideal impulse response is not absolutely summable

Consequence: Gibbs Phenomenon

# Gibbs Phenomenon

**Figure 2.21** Convergence of the Fourier transform. The oscillatory behavior at  $\omega = \omega_c$  is often called the Gibbs phenomenon.

