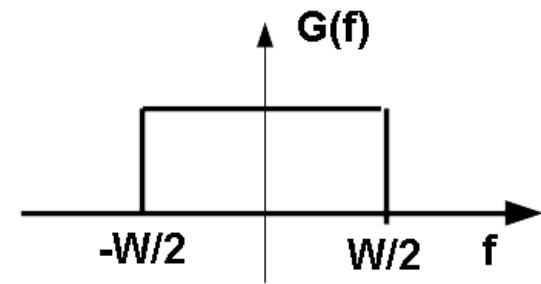


# Review of Signals and Systems: Part 2

Gaurav S. Kasbekar  
Dept. of Electrical Engineering  
IIT Bombay

# Bandwidth



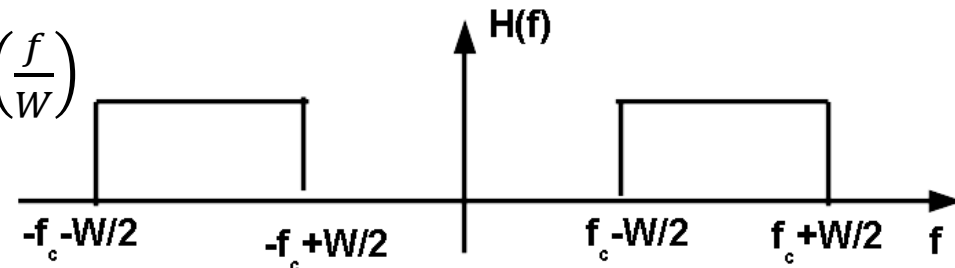
- Intuitively, “bandwidth” of a signal:
  - provides a measure of extent of significant spectral content of the signal *for positive frequencies*
- Since the meaning of “significant spectral content” is mathematically imprecise, there is no universally accepted definition of bandwidth
  - several definitions have been proposed
- Following two examples illustrate how bandwidth is typically defined when signal is strictly band-limited

E.g.:

1) Let  $g(t)$  be such that  $F[g(t)] = \text{rect}\left(\frac{f}{W}\right)$

• Bandwidth of  $g(t)$ :

□  $\frac{W}{2}$



2) Let  $h(t)$  be such that  $F[h(t)] = \text{rect}\left(\frac{f-f_c}{W}\right) + \text{rect}\left(\frac{-f-f_c}{W}\right)$ , where  $f_c > \frac{W}{2}$

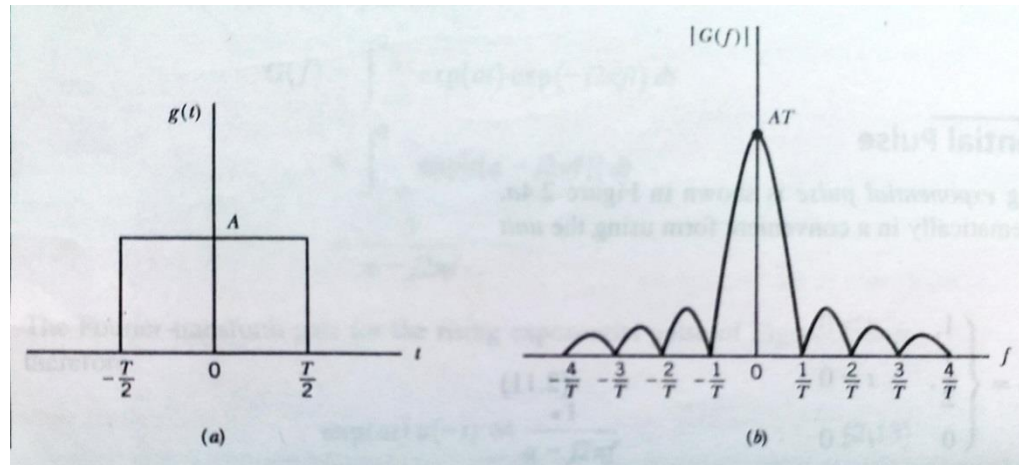
• Bandwidth of  $h(t)$ :

□  $W$

- Next, we study two commonly used definitions, which are often used for a signal that is not strictly band-limited

# Null-to-null Bandwidth

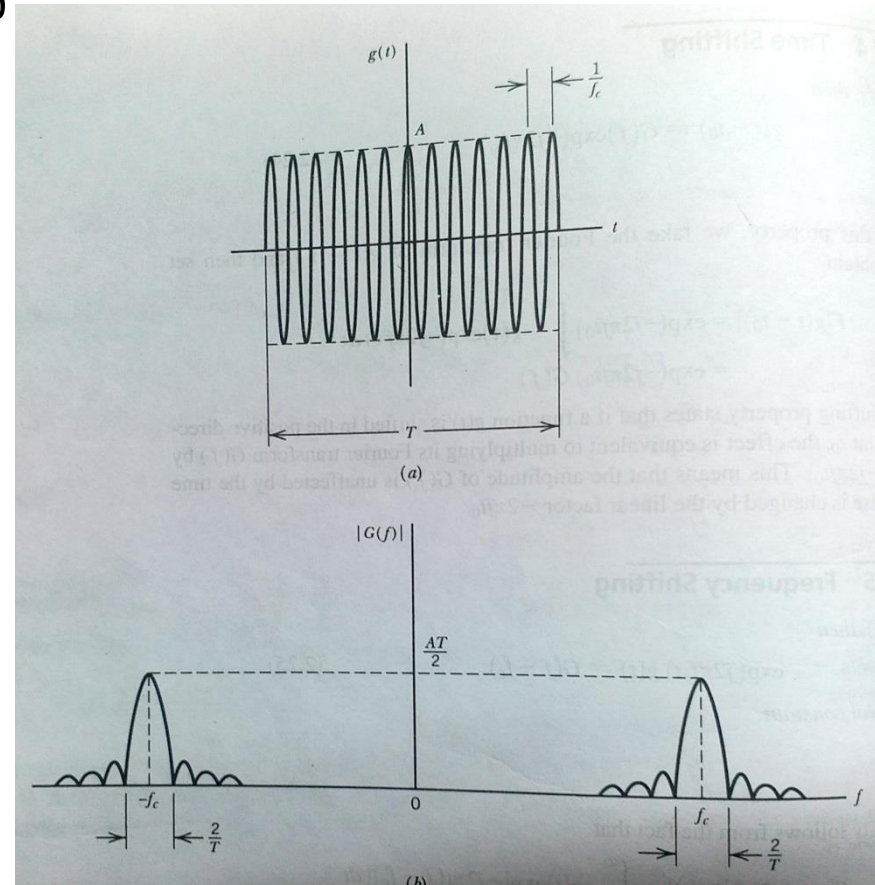
- Suppose spectrum of a signal is even function of frequency with “*main lobe(s)*” bounded by well-defined “*nulls*”
- If signal is low-pass, then bandwidth is defined as:
  - half of total width of main lobe
- E.g.: Recall that if  $g(t) = A \text{rect}\left(\frac{t}{T}\right)$ , where  $A > 0$  and  $T > 0$ , then  $G(f) = AT \text{sinc}(fT)$
- Bandwidth of this signal:
  - $\frac{1}{T}$



# Null-to-null Bandwidth (contd.)

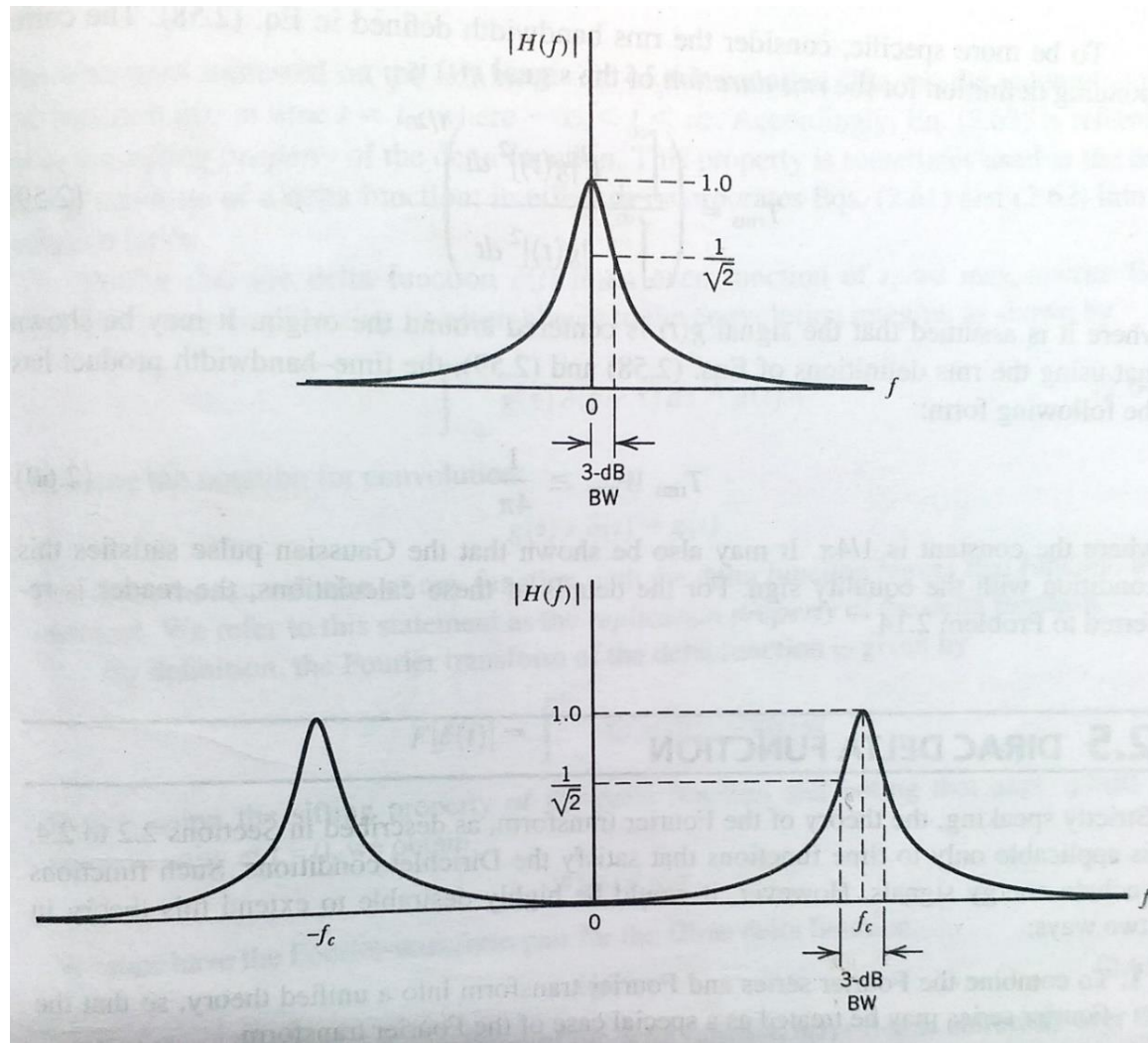
- If signal is band-pass with main spectral lobes centred around  $\pm f_c$ , where  $f_c$  is much larger than width of main-lobe, then bandwidth is defined as:
  - width of main lobe for positive frequencies
- E.g.: Consider the RF pulse  $g(t) = A \text{rect}\left(\frac{t}{T}\right) \cos(2\pi f_c t)$ , where  $f_c T \gg 1$
- $G(f)$ :
  - $\frac{AT}{2} \{ \text{sinc}((f - f_c)T) + \text{sinc}((f + f_c)T) \}$
- Bandwidth of this signal:
  - $\frac{2}{T}$
- Above definition of bandwidth called “null-to-null bandwidth”
- Above example shows that shifting spectral content of a low-pass signal by a sufficiently large frequency has effect of doubling the bandwidth of the signal

Ref: “Communication Systems”  
by S. Haykin and M. Moher, 5<sup>th</sup>  
ed



# 3-dB Bandwidth

- 3-dB bandwidth of a signal  $g(t)$  is defined to be  $f_2 - f_1$  if:
  - $f_2 > f_1 \geq 0$ , for frequencies inside the band  $f_1 < f < f_2$ , the amplitude spectrum  $|G(f)|$  falls no lower than  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  of the maximum value of  $|G(f)|$ , and the maximum value occurs at a frequency inside the band  $[f_1, f_2]$



# 3-dB Bandwidth (contd.)

- E.g.: recall that Fourier transform of  $g(t) = e^{-at}u(t)$ , where  $a > 0$ , is:
  - $G(f) = \frac{1}{a + j2\pi f}$
- 3-dB bandwidth of  $g(t)$ :
  - obtained by solving the equation  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + 4\pi^2 f^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{a}$
  - $\frac{a}{2\pi}$  Hz
- If signal is band-pass, centred at  $\pm f_c$ , as in lower fig. on previous slide, then 3-dB bandwidth is separation, along positive frequency axis, between:
  - the two frequencies at which amplitude spectrum of signal drops to  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  of its peak value at  $f_c$

