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OF WOLLONGONG  
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# ECE202: CIRCUITS AND SYSTEMS WEEK 10





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# Fourier Series and Magnetically Coupled Circuits (Chapter 17 & 13)

# Fourier Series



# Fourier Series

- **Periodic Functions**

$f(t) = f(t+NT)$ , where  $T$  is the period

- **Fundamental frequency:**

$$\omega_0 = 2\pi/T$$

- **Harmonic frequencies:**

Multiples of  $\omega_0$  i.e.  $n\omega_0$  for  $n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$  where  $n$  is the harmonic order

- **Fourier's theorem:**

**Any periodic function can be represented by the sum of sinewaves of fundamental & harmonic frequencies**




## Fourier Series cont.

Mathematically, a Fourier series can be described by:

$$f(t) = a_0 + a_1 \cos \omega_0 t + b_1 \sin \omega_0 t + 0 + a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t$$

$$= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t)$$

  
dc term

  
ac components

A sum of a dc component and an infinite sum of harmonic sinusoids



## Determining the Fourier coefficients

$a_0$ ,  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  are known as Fourier coefficients and can be found as:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) \cos n\omega_o t dt, \quad b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) \sin n\omega_o t dt$$

A proof is provided in the textbook.

Note:  $a_0$  is a measure of the average value of the signal



## Alternatives to find the Fourier coefficients

- Some textbooks will calculate the integrals for the coefficients over the interval from  $t=0$  to  $T$  (rather than  $t = -T/2$  to  $T/2$ )
- Either method is fine – the key is to evaluate the integral over 1 period of the function
  - The choice is often made depending on which interval is most convenient for the function being analysed



# Magnitude Phase Form

An alternative representation of the Fourier Series

$$f(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} A_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \varphi_n)$$

Where:

$$A_n = \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}, \quad \varphi_n = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{b_n}{a_n}\right)$$

Amplitude

Phase

Plots of the amplitude and phase terms versus frequency are known as the *magnitude spectrum* and *phase spectrum*, respectively



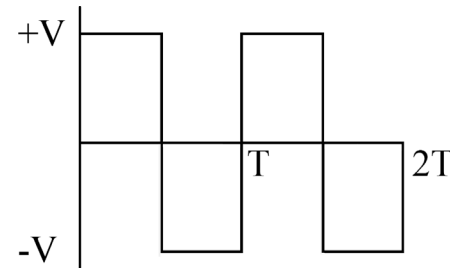


## Fourier Series Example 1

*Ans.*

*By observation,  $a_0 = 0$ .*

We can also prove this using the earlier integral equation definition. Finding the ac coefficients:



$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) \cos n\omega_o t dt = 0$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) \sin n\omega_o t dt$$

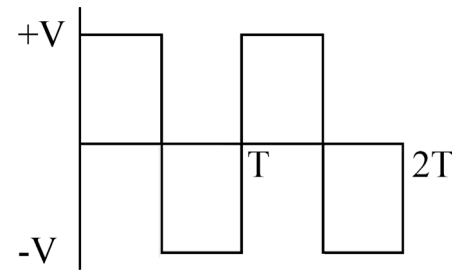
$$= \begin{cases} 0, & n \text{ even} \\ \frac{4}{T} \int_0^{T/2} V \sin n\omega_o t dt = \frac{2V}{n\pi} [-\cos n\omega_o t]_0^{T/2} = \frac{4V}{n\pi}, & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$



## Fourier Series, Example 1 cont.

Hence, the Fourier series is:

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \frac{4V}{\pi} \left( \sin \omega_o t + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3 \omega_o t + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5 \omega_o t + \frac{1}{7} \sin 7 \omega_o t + o \right) \\ &= \frac{4V}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1} \sin(2n-1) \omega_o t \end{aligned}$$



# Truncated Fourier Series

FS generally has  $\infty$  terms, but for practical reasons, we ignore all  $A_n$  for  $n$  sufficiently high.

The terms kept are the Truncated FS.

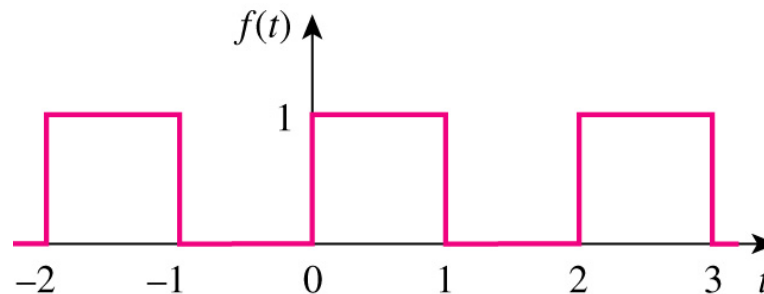
**Why ignore high frequency terms?**

- **They are usually small.**
- **There is usually the practical rationale in that a part of the circuit has a low pass characteristic & will make high frequency components insignificantly small. Eg the response of the human ear is negligible above 25 kHz so ignore all components higher than this in audio amplifier analysis.**



## Error resulting from truncated Fourier Series

For an example, examine the Fourier series of a square wave of period 2:



# Fourier Series of a Square Wave

Solution for a square wave:

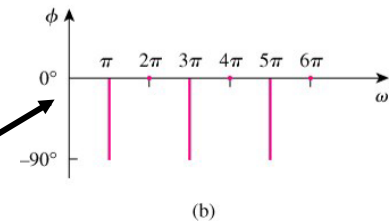
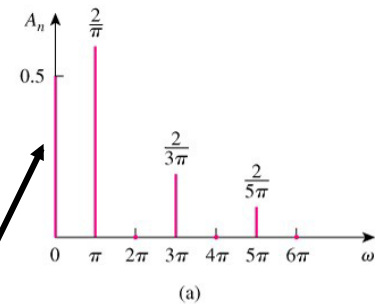
$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < t < 1 \\ 0, & 1 < t < 2 \end{cases} \text{ and } f(t) = f(t+2)$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt = 0 \text{ and}$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt = \begin{cases} 2/n\pi, & n = \text{odd} \\ 0, & n = \text{even} \end{cases}$$

$$A_n = \begin{cases} 2/n\pi, & n = \text{odd} \\ 0, & n = \text{even} \end{cases}$$

$$\varphi_n = \begin{cases} -90^\circ, & n = \text{odd} \\ 0, & n = \text{even} \end{cases}$$



a) Amplitude and  
b) Phase spectrum

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin(n\pi t), \quad n = 2k-1$$

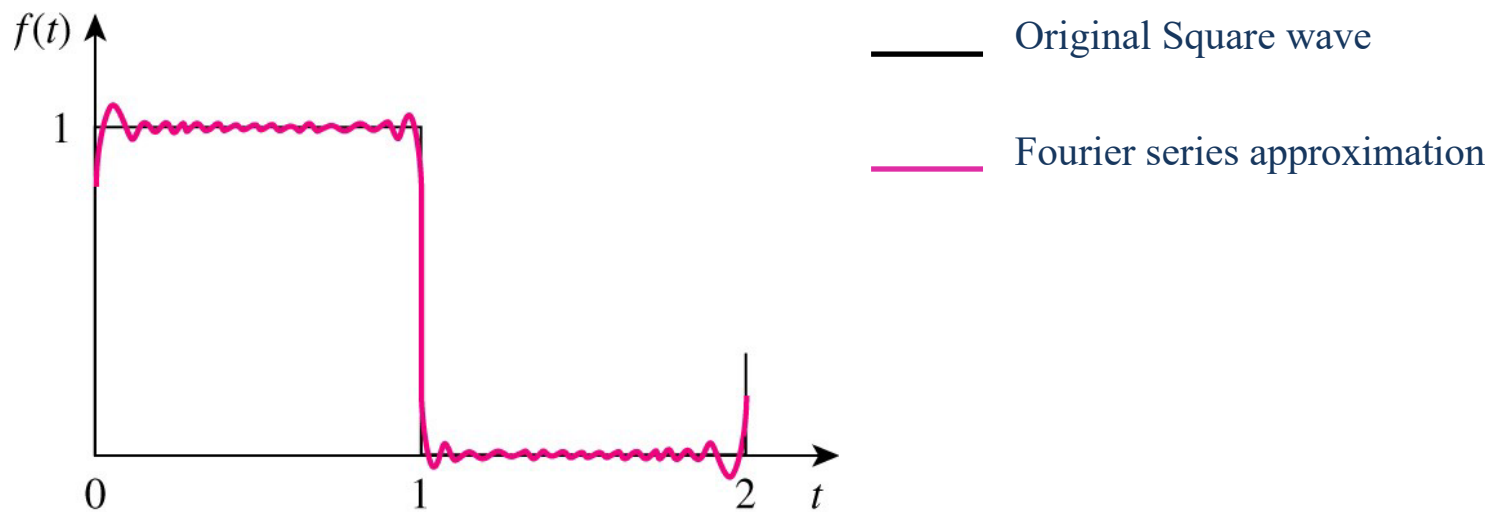
Notice the limits  
chosen for the integrals





# Truncated Fourier Series of a Square Wave

Truncating the series at  $N=11$ :

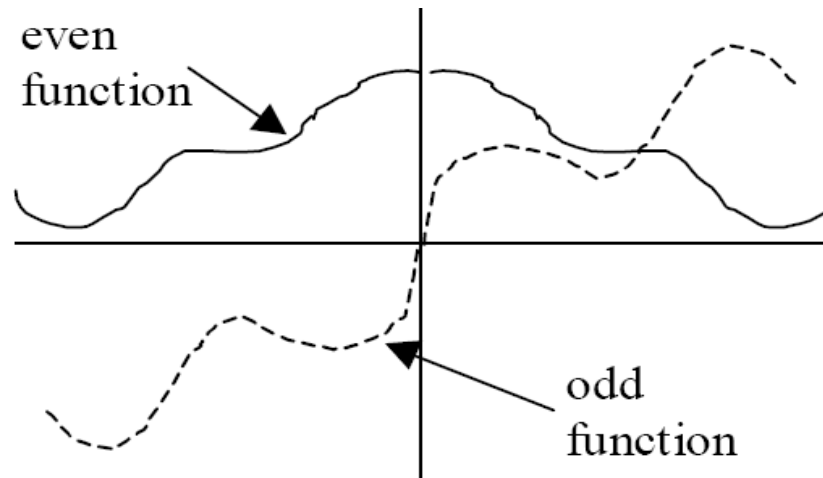


The ripple effect is known as *Gibbs phenomenon*

# Symmetry Properties

Even function:  $f(t) = f(-t)$ ; no sine terms in the Fourier series

Odd function:  $f(t) = -f(-t)$ ; no cosine terms in the Fourier series

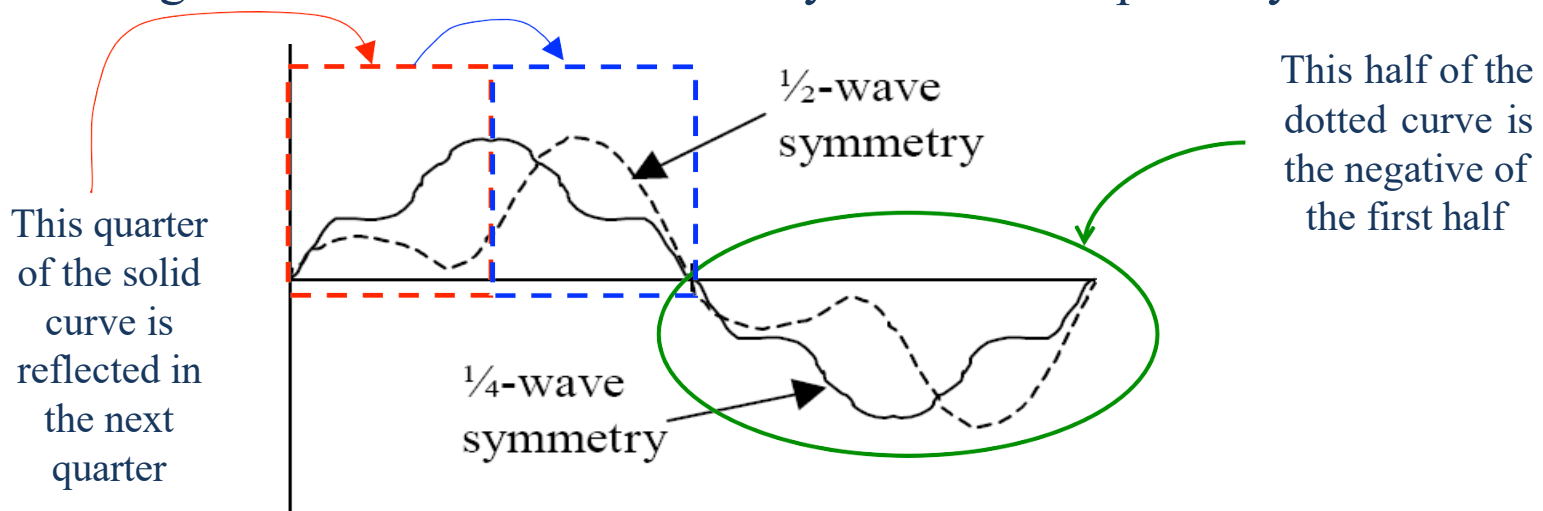


We can make use of these properties to simplify calculations of FS.

## Symmetry Properties cont.

Half-wave symmetry: 2nd half-cycle is negative of the first; no even harmonics; integration can be made over  $\frac{1}{2}$  cycle.

Quarter-wave symmetry: Has half-wave symmetry & 2nd quarter is reflection of the 1st quarter; as for  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wave symmetry & integration can be made over  $\frac{1}{4}$  cycle and multiplied by 4!



Can make use of these properties to simplify calculations of FS.



## Circuits & Fourier Series

Fourier Series (FS) approaches can be used where a **repetitive non-sinusoidal** forcing function occurs and the Natural Response (NR) is not important.

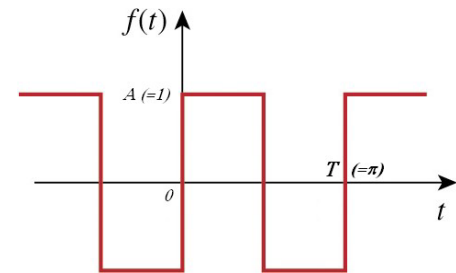
The steps are

1. Decide on the upper limit of  $n$ :  $N_{\max}$
2. Find the FS of the forcing function for  $n = 0 - N_{\max}$
3. Solve for each component of the Forced Response (FR) using phasor methods
4. Combine the responses to each harmonic frequency to give the overall response.



# Example 1

A square wave of amplitude 1 and period  $\pi$  seconds is applied to an RC low pass filter with  $R = 1 \Omega$ ,  $C = 2 \text{ F}$ . Determine the value of the output considering only the lowest four components.



1. Determine  $N_{\max}$ : First 4 components of square wave have harmonic order 1, 3, 5 & 7 giving  $N_{\max} = 7$

$$f(t) = \frac{4A}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1} \sin(2n-1)\omega_0 t$$

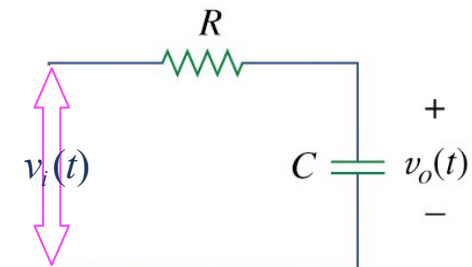
2. Find the Fourier Series of the forcing function: The fundamental frequency is:

$$\omega_o = 2\pi / T = 2\text{rad/s.}$$

Symmetry	$a_0$	$a_n$	$b_n$
Even	$a_0 \neq 0$	$a_n \neq 0$	$b_n = 0$
Odd	$a_0 = 0$	$a_n = 0$	$b_n \neq 0$
Half-wave	$a_0 = 0$	$a_{2n} = 0$	$b_{2n} = 0$

Using the first 4 terms of the Fourier series, the square wave input is approximated by:

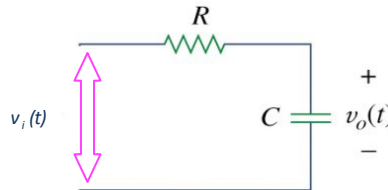
$$v_i(t) = \frac{4}{\pi} \left( \sin 2t + \frac{1}{3} \sin 6t + \frac{1}{5} \sin 10t + \frac{1}{7} \sin 14t \right)$$





## Example 1 cont.

3. Find the transfer function of the circuit:



$$V_o/V_i = \frac{1/j\omega C}{R + 1/j\omega C} = \frac{1}{1 + j\omega RC} = \frac{1}{1 + j4n}$$

Setting  $n = 1, 3, 5, 7$  and finding the transfer function for each  $n$ :

$$\rightarrow 0.24\angle -76^\circ, \quad 0.08\angle -85^\circ, \quad 0.05\angle -87^\circ, \quad 0.04\angle -88^\circ$$

4. Adding the outputs resulting from each of the 4 inputs passing through the circuit:

$$\begin{aligned} v_o(t) = & 0.31\sin(2t - 76^\circ) + 0.035\sin(6t - 85^\circ) \\ & + 0.013\sin(10t - 87^\circ) + 0.007\sin(14t - 88^\circ) \end{aligned}$$

Notice that the magnitude of the higher harmonic components is reduced much more than the lower harmonic components.

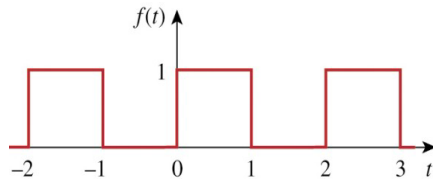
This is because it is a low pass filter i.e. low frequencies are passed and high frequencies are attenuated.



## Example 2

Find the response  $v_o(t)$  of the circuit below when the voltage source  $v_s(t)$  is given by the following square wave.

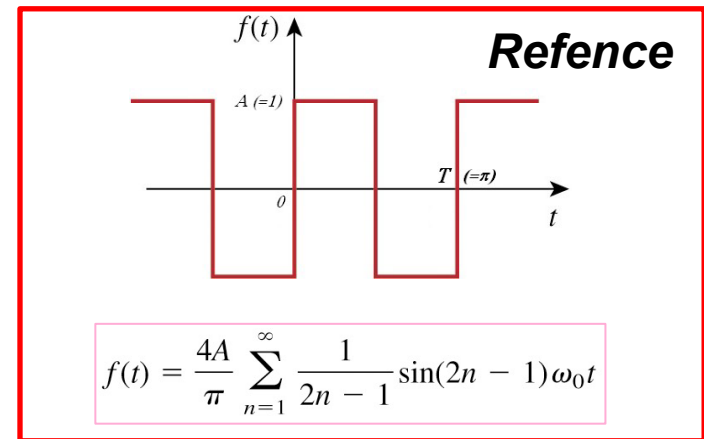
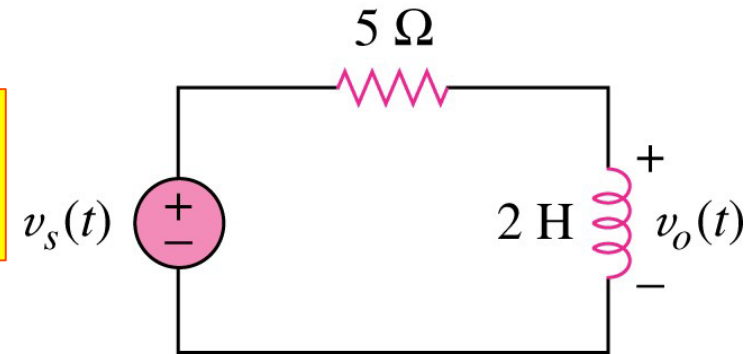
$$v_s(t) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin(n\pi\omega t), n = 2k - 1$$



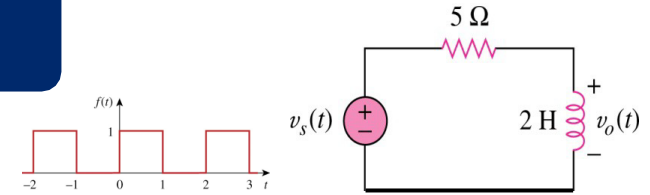
$$f(t) = f(t + T) \text{ where } T = 2$$

$$\therefore \omega_0 = 2\pi / T = \pi$$

$$\text{and } \omega_n = n\omega_0 = n\pi$$



## Example 2 cont.



Solution

$$V_0 = \frac{j2n\pi}{5 + j2n\pi} V_s$$

$$v_s(t) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin(n\pi\omega t), \quad n = 2k - 1$$

Phasor of the circuit

For dc component, ( $\omega_n = 0$  for  $n=0$ ),  $V_s = 1/2 \Rightarrow V_o = 0$

For  $n^{\text{th}}$  harmonic:

Recall, when converting each harmonic to a phasor:

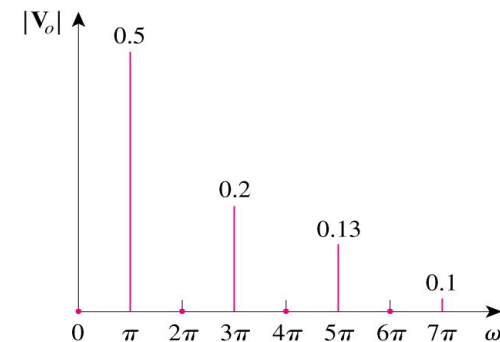
$\sin(\omega t) = \cos(\omega t - 90^\circ)$

$$V_o = \frac{2}{n\pi} \angle -90^\circ \times \frac{2n\pi}{\sqrt{25 + 4n^2\pi^2}} \angle (90^\circ - \tan^{-1} \frac{2n\pi}{5})$$

$$= \frac{4}{\sqrt{25 + 4n^2\pi^2}} \angle (-\tan^{-1} \frac{2n\pi}{5})$$

In the time domain:

$$v_o(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{\sqrt{25 + 4n^2\pi^2}} \cos(n\pi t - \tan^{-1} \frac{2n\pi}{5})$$



Amplitude spectrum of the output voltage



# Fourier Series, Average power and RMS Values

Given:

$$v(t) = V_{dc} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} V_n \cos(n\omega_0 t - \theta_n) \text{ and } i(t) = I_{dc} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n \cos(n\omega_0 t - \varphi_n)$$

The average power is:

$$P = V_{dc}I_{dc} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} V_n I_n \cos(\theta_n - \varphi_n)$$

Note: Here, voltages and currents *must* be for the same harmonic frequency

The rms value is:

$$F_{rms} = \sqrt{a_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2)} = \sqrt{a_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n^2}$$



## Example

The voltage across the terminals of a circuit is given as:

$$v(t) = 30 + 20 \cos(60\pi t + 45^\circ) + 10 \cos(120\pi t - 45^\circ) \text{ V}$$

If the current entering the terminal at higher potential is:

$$i(t) = 6 + 4 \cos(60\pi t + 10^\circ) - 2 \cos(120\pi t - 60^\circ) \text{ A}$$

$$F_{rms} = \sqrt{a_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2)} = \sqrt{a_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n^2}$$

find:

(a) the rms value of the voltage,

$$\sqrt{30^2 + \frac{1}{2}(20^2 + 10^2)}$$

(b) the rms value of the current,

$$\sqrt{6^2 + \frac{1}{2}(4^2 + 2^2)}$$

(c) the average power absorbed by the circuit.

$$P = V_{dc}I_{dc} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} V_n I_n \cos(\theta_n - \phi_n)$$

$$30 \times 6 + 0.5[20 \times 4 \cos(45^\circ - 10^\circ) - 10 \times 2 \cos(-45^\circ + 60^\circ)]$$





## Exponential form of the Fourier Series

Using Euler's identity:  $\cos n\omega_0 t = \frac{e^{jn\omega_0 t} + e^{-jn\omega_0 t}}{2}$  ,  $\sin n\omega_0 t = \frac{e^{jn\omega_0 t} - e^{-jn\omega_0 t}}{2j}$

The terms at order  $n$  can then be written as:

$$\frac{a_n - jb_n}{2} e^{jn\omega_0 t} + \frac{a_n + jb_n}{2} e^{-jn\omega_0 t}$$

Define a new coefficient  $c_n = (a_n - jb_n)/2$  for  $n$  positive

$$c_n = (a_n + jb_n)/2 \text{ for } n \text{ negative} \quad \& \quad c_0 = a_0$$

FS can be written as:  $f(t) = c_0 + \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} c_n e^{jn\omega_0 t} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}$

$$\text{where } c_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt$$



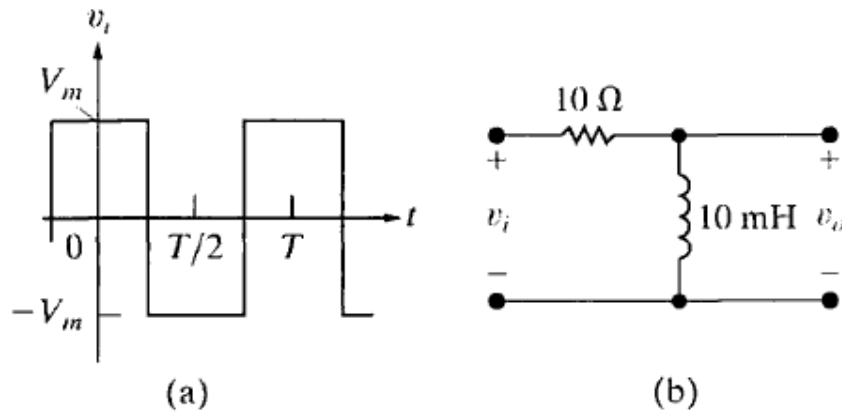
## Fourier Series

- $c_n$  can be integrated over any other range of width  $T$  Formula includes case of  $n = 0$
- Also known as the complex Fourier Series representation
- $a_n, b_n$  can be found if required from
$$a_n = 2\text{Real}(c_n), \quad b_n = -2\text{Imag}(c_n)$$



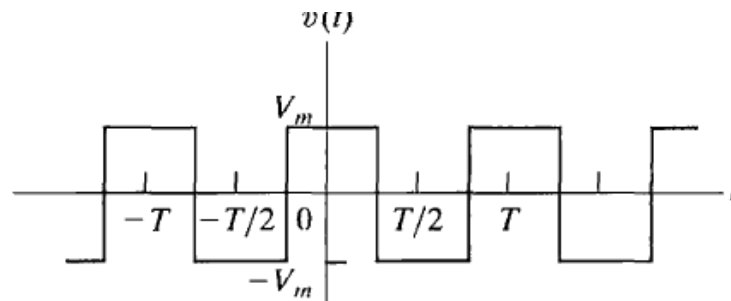
## Additional Examples: Problem 1

The periodic square-wave voltage shown below is applied to the circuit. Derive the first three nonzero terms in the Fourier series that represent the steady-state voltage  $v_o$  if  $V_m = 15\pi$  V and the period of the input voltage is  $4\pi$  ms?

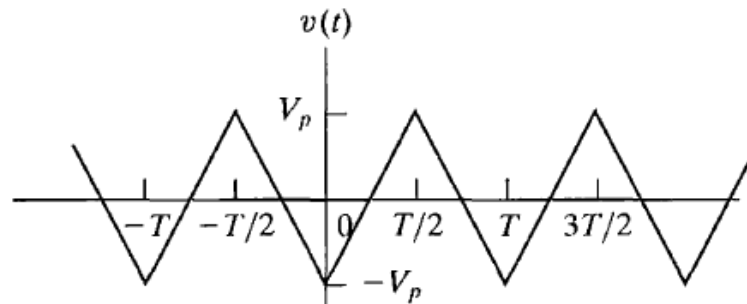


## Additional Examples: Problem 2

Find the Fourier series for the following signal?



(a)



(b)

