

# Signals and Systems

## Lecture 13: Fourier Series Representation of Periodic Signals (Part 1)

### Outline

- Introduction.
- Defining Equations for Fourier series.
  - ✓ Trigonometric Fourier series.
  - ✓ Compact Trigonometric Fourier series (FS).
  - ✓ Exponential Fourier series.
- Examples

### Introduction

- \* Baron Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier (1768–1830) introduced the idea that any periodic function can be represented by a series of sines and cosines, which are harmonically related.



Baron Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier (1768–1830)

- \* A continuous time signal  $x(t)$  is said to be periodic if  $x(t) = x(t + T)$ , for all  $t$ .

- Examples of basic periodic signals:

$$x(t) = \cos(\omega_0 t) \rightarrow \text{Real sinusoid.}$$

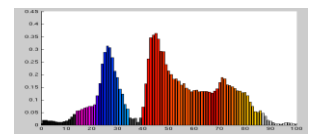
$$x(t) = e^{j\omega_0 t} \rightarrow \text{Complex exponential}$$

Where

$$\omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T_0} = 2\pi f_0$$

- $e^{jk\omega_0 t} \Rightarrow$  Harmonically Related  $\Rightarrow \frac{T_0}{k} = \frac{2\pi}{k\omega_0}$

- \* An approximation of the periodic signal  $x(t)$  can be built up by adding appropriate combination of harmonics to the fundamental harmonic, this sum is called a Fourier series.



## Defining Equations for Fourier series

### 1) Trigonometric Fourier series (Trigonometric CTFS)

- \* Arbitrary periodic signal can be expressed as a linear combination of sinusoidal signals, the periodic signal  $x(t)$  can be split up as **Sines** and **Cosines** of fundamental frequency  $\omega_0$  and all of its harmonics and expressed as given below:

$$x(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cdot \cos(k\omega_0 t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \cdot \sin(k\omega_0 t)$$

- ✓ Where  $k$  from 1 to  $\infty \Rightarrow$  **Positive frequency.**
- ✓  $a_0$ - Zero harmonic or Dc, Average value.
- ✓ Where  $\omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T_0}$  is the fundamental frequency of  $x(t)$  and coefficients  $a_0, a_k,$  and  $b_k$  are referred to as the **trigonometric CTFS coefficients**. The coefficients are calculated as follows:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{\langle T_0 \rangle} x(t) dt$$

$$a_k = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{\langle T_0 \rangle} x(t) \cdot \cos(k\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$b_k = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{\langle T_0 \rangle} x(t) \cdot \sin(k\omega_0 t) dt$$

$$T_0 = \frac{1}{f_0} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0}$$

$T_0$ - Fundamental period in seconds  
 $f_0$ - Fundamental frequency in Hertz  
 $\omega_0$ - Radian frequency in rad/sec

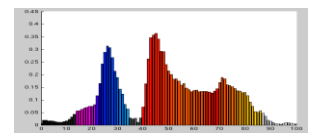
### 2) Compact Trigonometric Fourier series (FS)

- \* The trigonometric FS can be represented in compact form. It is also called **polar FS**:
- \* “When  $x(t)$  is real, the coefficients of trigonometric form  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  are real.
- \* The compact form of FS is given by the following

$$x(t) = C_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_k \cdot \cos(k\omega_0 t - \theta_k)$$

- ✓ Where  $k$  from 1 to  $\infty \Rightarrow$  **Positive frequency.**
- ✓ **Where:**

$$C_0 = a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{\langle T_0 \rangle} x(t) dt$$



$$C_k = \sqrt{a_k^2 + b_k^2}$$

$$\theta_k = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{b_k}{a_k} \right)$$

### 3) Exponential Fourier series

- \* General periodic signal  $x(t)$  can be represented as a linear combination of harmonically related complex exponentials

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k \cdot e^{jk\omega_0 t}$$

- ✓  $a_k$  - Complex:

$$a_k = A_k e^{j\theta_k} = B_k + jC_k$$

$$a_k = A_k e^{j\theta_k} \Rightarrow \text{Polar form}$$

$$a_k = B_k + jC_k \Rightarrow \text{Rectangular form}$$

- ✓ Where  $k$  from  $-\infty$  to  $\infty \Rightarrow$  positive and negative frequency.
- ✓  $k\omega_0$  - Frequencies that are positive and negative.

- \* Two Questions are important in this form:

- 1) How to determine these coefficients.
- 2) How a broad of class signal, can be represented using exponential FS.

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k \cdot e^{jk\omega_0 t} \Rightarrow \text{(Synthesis equation)}$$

$$a_k = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{\langle T_0 \rangle} x(t) \cdot e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt \Rightarrow \text{(Analysis equation)}$$

- \* Note: Using Euler's identity, the trigonometric form can be represented using exponential form:

$$e^{jk\omega_0 t} = \cos(k\omega_0 t) + j \sin(k\omega_0 t)$$

- \* Note:  $a_k$  calculation in Exponential form is much easier compared to  $a_0, a_k, b_k$  in trigonometric form.

- \*  $x(t)$  and  $a_k$  are represented by the FS pair, as

$$x(t) \Leftrightarrow a_k$$

$$x(t) \Leftrightarrow X(k) \quad \text{different sources/Books.}$$

- \*  $X(k)$  are related to trigonometric FS coefficients  $a_0, a_k$ , and  $b_k$  as:

$$X(0) = a_0$$

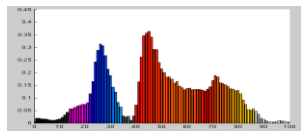
$$X(k) = \frac{1}{2} (a_k - jb_k)$$

$$X^*(k) = \frac{1}{2} (a_k + jb_k)$$

Where  $X^*(k)$  conjugate of  $X(k)$ .

- \* Notes related to trigonometric FS form 1

- If the periodical function  $x(t)$  is symmetrical with respect to the time axis, the coefficient  $a_0 = 0$ .



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- If  $x(t)$  is **even function**, only **cosine terms** in FS exist and therefore  $b_k = 0$ .
- If  $x(t)$  is **odd function**, only **sine terms** in FS exist, then  $a_k = 0$ .
- \* In the sciences and engineering, the process of **decomposing** a function (signal) into simpler pieces is often called **Fourier analysis**, while the operation of **rebuilding** the function from these pieces is **Fourier synthesis**.
- \* Synthesis equation:  $x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k \cdot e^{jk\omega_0 t}$  can be rewritten as:
  - $x(t) = a_0 + (a_{-1} e^{-j\omega_0 t} + a_1 e^{j\omega_0 t}) + a_{-2} e^{-j2\omega_0 t} + a_2 e^{j2\omega_0 t} + \dots$
  - Where  $a_0 \rightarrow$  the first component  $\rightarrow$  dc value.
  - The second component  $(a_{-1} e^{-j\omega_0 t} + a_1 e^{j\omega_0 t})$  is referred to as the **first harmonic** with  $\omega_0$ .
  - The third component is **second harmonic** with twice fundamental frequency  $2\omega_0$ .
  - In general the component for  $k = \pm N$  are referred to as the **N-th harmonic** with Frequency  $N\omega_0$ .

### Examples

1) Find the Fourier series coefficients for the signal  $x(t) = \cos(\omega_0 t)$ .

**Solution:** Using Euler's relation:

$$x(t) = \cos(\omega_0 t) = \frac{1}{2} e^{j\omega_0 t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-j\omega_0 t}$$

The fundamental frequency is  $\omega_0$  and

$$a_0 = 0 \text{ (dc value)}$$

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_{-1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_k = 0 \text{ for } k \neq \pm 1$$

**Note that**

$$a_{-k} = a_k^*$$

2) Find the Fourier Series coefficients for  $x(t) = \sin(\omega_0 t)$ .

**Solution:**

$$x(t) = \sin(\omega_0 t) = \frac{1}{2j} e^{j\omega_0 t} - \frac{1}{2j} e^{-j\omega_0 t}$$

The fundamental frequency is  $\omega_0$  and

$$a_0 = 0 \text{ (dc value)}$$

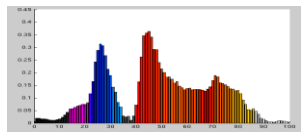
$$a_1 = \frac{1}{2j}$$

$$a_{-1} = \frac{-1}{2j}$$

$$a_k = 0 \text{ for } k \neq \pm 1$$

**Note that**

$$a_{-k} = a_k^*$$



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3) Find the Fourier series coefficients for

$$x(t) = 1 + \frac{1}{6} \cos(2\pi t) + \frac{1}{3} \cos(4\pi t) + \cos(6\pi t)$$

**Solution:**

$$x(t) = 1 + \frac{1}{6} \cos(2\pi t) + \frac{1}{3} \cos(4\pi t) + \cos(6\pi t) = 1 + \frac{1}{12} e^{j2\pi t} + \frac{1}{12} e^{-j2\pi t} + \frac{1}{6} e^{j4\pi t} + \frac{1}{6} e^{-j4\pi t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{j6\pi t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-j6\pi t}$$

The fundamental frequency is  $\omega_0 = 2\pi$  and

$$a_0 = 1 \text{ (dc value)}$$

$$a_1 = a_{-1} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$a_2 = a_{-2} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$a_3 = a_{-3} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_k = 0 \text{ for } k \neq 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$$

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-3}^3 a_k \cdot e^{jk2\pi t}$$