

1. Signal Processing Fundamentals

1.1 Continuous and discrete signals

Fundamental to the study of radio science and techniques for space exploration is the concept of a signal and how the signal is represented and processed. In this course we want to use the word “signal” in the broadest possible sense.

A signal is the variation of a physically measurable quantity. Variations of the quantity are manifestations of a particular process under study and have this process as their cause.

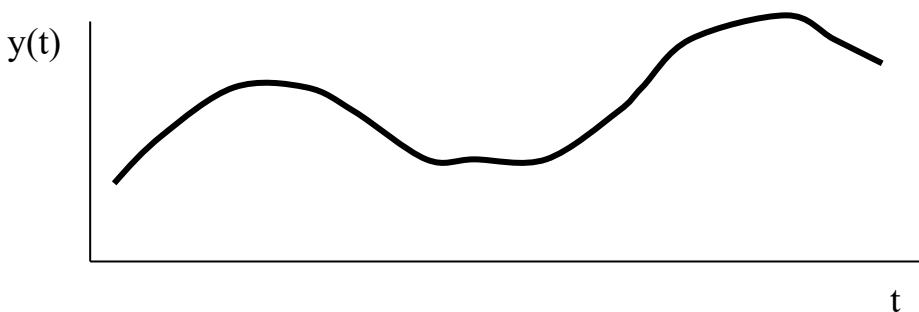
Noise, in contrast, is a variation of the physically measurable quantity. However, variations of the quantity are not a manifestation of a particular process under study and have a frequently unknown process as their cause.

Examples of signals:

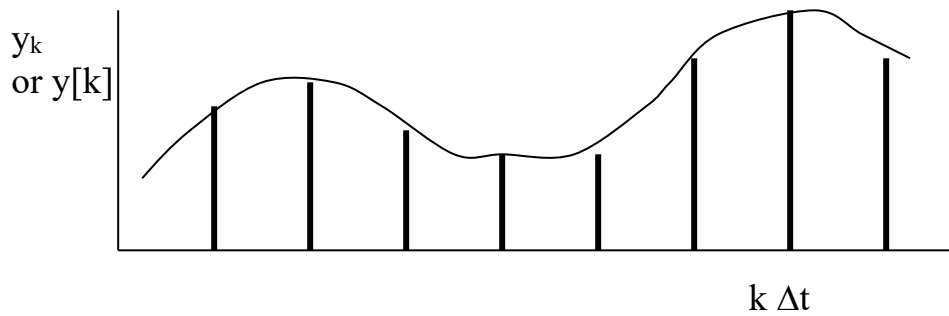
- The voltage fluctuations at the focus of a radio antenna tracking the Cassini spacecraft.
- The current across a 1 Ohm resistor.
- The beam pattern of a radar antenna
- The ground displacements in continental drift

In electrical engineering a signal is often a function of time and/or space and can be functionally represented.

Example: a continuous time signal:



If we assume that the function $y(t)$ has been sampled at regular intervals, Δt , then the set of samples is called a time series. It consists of N known values, $y_k, k=1,2,3,\dots, N$



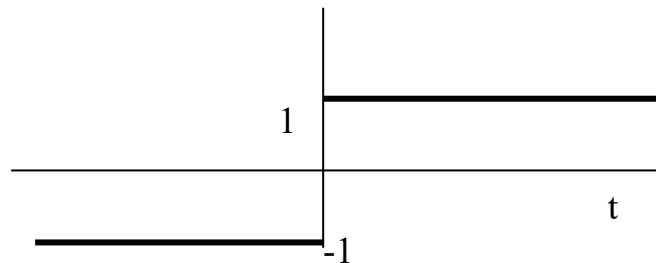
In the following we want to use parentheses for continuous functions and subscripts or brackets for discrete functions. For instance:

$y(t)$: continuous function
 y_k : discrete function
 $y[k]$; discrete function

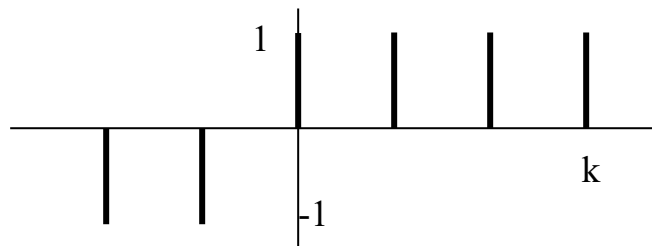
Some very fundamental continuous and discrete functions are:

Sign function

$$\text{sgn}(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t \geq 0 \\ -1, & t < 0 \end{cases}$$

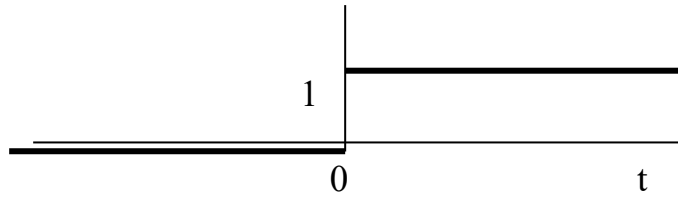


$$\text{sgn}[k] = \begin{cases} 1, & k \geq 0 \\ -1, & k < 0 \end{cases}$$

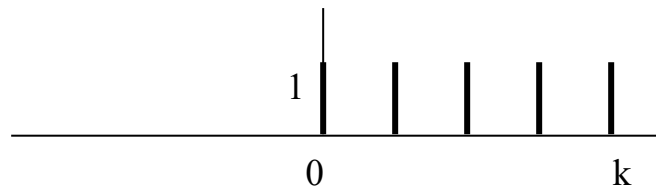


Step function

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t \geq 0 \\ 0, & t < 0 \end{cases}$$

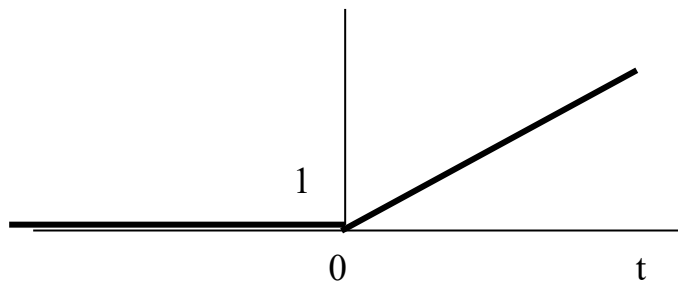


$$u[k] = \begin{cases} 1, & k \geq 0 \\ 0, & k < 0 \end{cases}$$

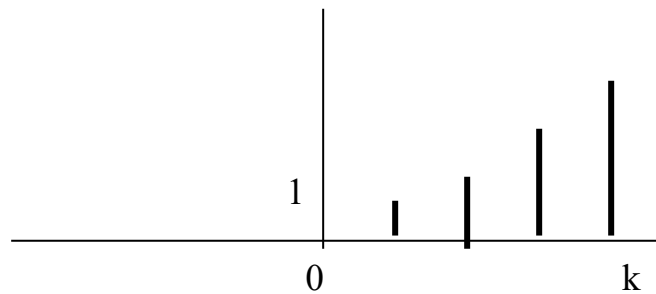


Ramp function

$$r(t) = \begin{cases} t, & t \geq 0 \\ 0, & t < 0 \end{cases}$$



$$r[k] = \begin{cases} k, & k \geq 0 \\ 0, & k < 0 \end{cases}$$

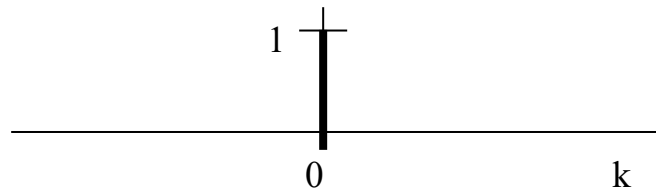
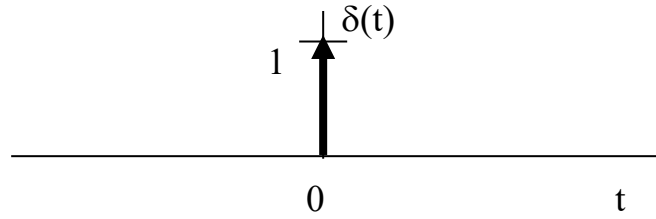


Delta function

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

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

$$\delta[k] = \begin{cases} 1, & k=0 \\ 0, & k \neq 0 \end{cases}$$



Some important relations are:

$$u(t) = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \text{sgn}(t))$$
$$u[k] = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \text{sgn}[k])$$

$$r(t) = t u(t)$$
$$r[k] = k u[k]$$

$$\delta(t) = \frac{d}{dt} u(t)$$

$$\delta[k] = u[k] - u[k-1], \quad k \leq 0$$

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

$$u[k] = \sum_{n=-\infty}^k \delta[k]$$

1.2 Fourier Series

The representation of a function over a certain interval by a linear combination of mutually orthogonal functions is called a Fourier series representation of a function. Examples of sets of orthogonal functions are:

Trigonometric functions:	$\sin n\omega_0 t, \cos n\omega_0 t$
Exponential functions:	$\exp(i n\omega_0 t)$
Legendre polynomials:	$P_n(t) = 1/(2^n n!) \frac{d^n}{dt^n} (t^2 - 1)^n$
Bessel functions:	$J_n(\beta) = 1/(2\pi) \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \exp(i \beta \sin x - nx) dx$

One particular Fourier series we will use in this course is the exponential Fourier series. It uses the functions $\{ \exp(i n\omega_0 t) \}$ $n=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots$ which are orthogonal over the interval $(t_0, t_0 + T)$.

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_n e^{in\omega_0 t}$$

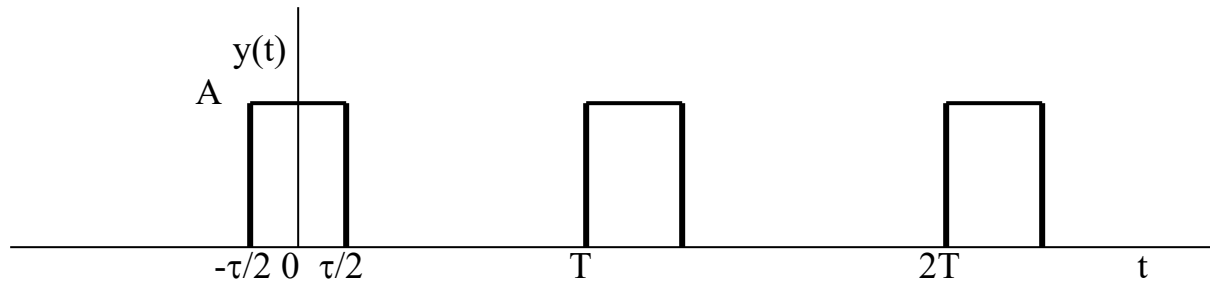
$$c_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} y(t) e^{-in\omega_0 t} dt$$

The magnitude and phase of the n^{th} harmonic are

$$|c_n| = \sqrt{\text{Re}^2[c_n] + \text{Im}^2[c_n]}$$

$$\angle c_n = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\text{Im}[c_n]}{\text{Re}[c_n]} \right)$$

Example: Rectangular pulse train with period T



We can now compute the coefficients, c_n , by writing the function $y(t)$ in the form;

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_n e^{in\omega_0 t} \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T} = 2\pi\nu_0 \quad \text{fundamental frequency}$$

The coefficients are then given as:

$$c_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-\tau/2}^{+\tau/2} A e^{-in\omega_0 t} dt$$

$$c_n = \frac{A}{T} \int_{-\tau/2}^{+\tau/2} e^{-in\omega_0 t} dt$$

$$c_n = \frac{A}{T} \frac{1}{-in\omega_0} e^{-in\omega_0 t} \Big|_{-\tau/2}^{+\tau/2}$$

$$c_n = \frac{A}{T} \frac{1}{n\omega_0} (\sin n\omega_0 t + i \cos n\omega_0 t) \Big|_{-\tau/2}^{+\tau/2}$$

$$c_n = \frac{A}{n\pi} \left(\sin \frac{n\pi\tau}{T} \right)$$

$$c_0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} \frac{A}{n\pi} \left(\sin \frac{n\pi\tau}{T} \right)$$

$$c_0 = \frac{A\tau}{T}$$

And the magnitude and phase part of the coefficients are:

$$|c_n| = \left| \frac{A}{n\pi} \left(\sin \frac{n\pi\tau}{T} \right) \right|$$

$$\angle c_n = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{0}{c_n} \right)$$

Let us now look at a specific example, for instance a pulsed radar signal for range and range rate determinations, and assume that:

$$T = 4\text{ms}$$

$$\tau = 1\text{ms.}$$

We get discrete values for c_n with an envelope that peaks at $n=0$ and has zero-crossings at

$$n\pi\tau/T = \pi$$

$$n\tau/T = 1$$

$$n\nu_0\tau = 1 \quad \text{with } T=2\pi/\omega_0 = 1/\nu_0$$

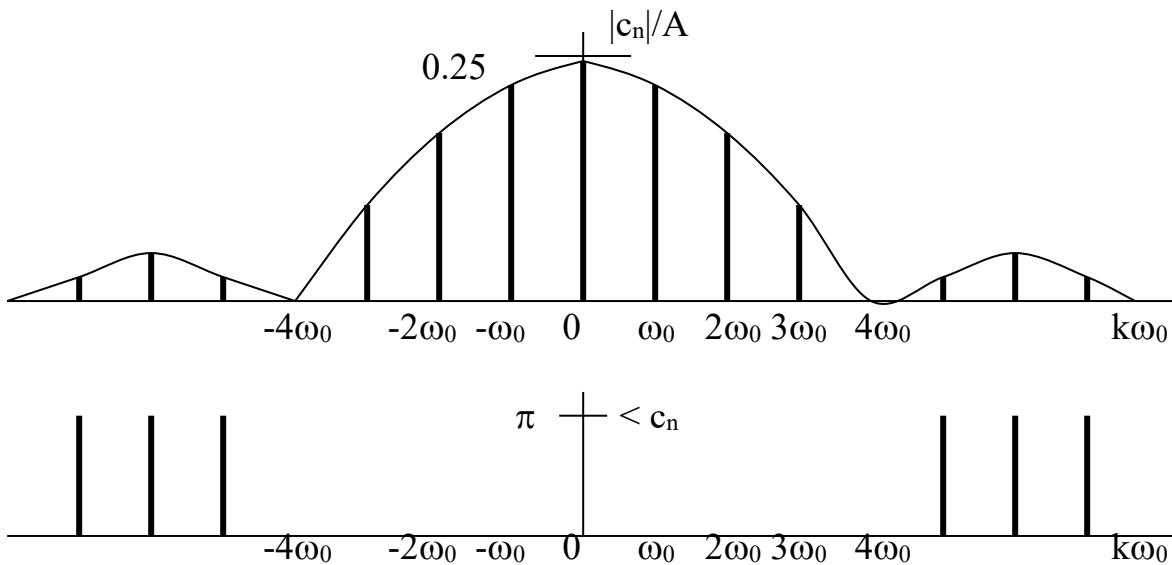
$$\begin{aligned} n\nu_0 &= 1/\tau \\ &= 1 \text{ kHz} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_0 &= 1/T \\ &= 250 \text{ Hz} \end{aligned}$$

$$n = 4$$

Plugging in several values of n , we get:

n	0	±1	±2	±3	±4	±5	±6	±7	±8	±9
$ c_n /A$	0.250	0.225	0.159	0.075	0	0.045	0.053	0.032	0	0.025
$\angle c_n$	0	0	0	0	-	π	π	π	-	0



Note: The phases at $-3\omega_0$ to $3\omega_0$ are zero, but the phases at $-4\omega_0$ and $4\omega_0$ are not defined. There is a difference!

Plots of the magnitude and phase of c_n are called magnitude and phase spectra.

Now we are in a good shape to do some Fourier series mental gymnastics.

Here are some questions:

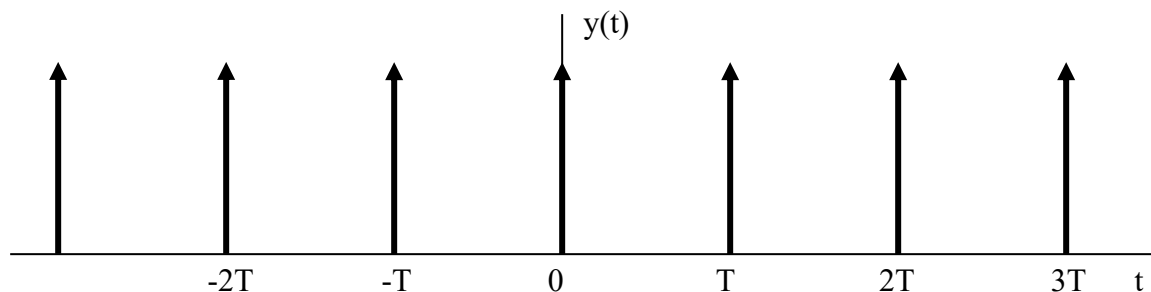
How do the magnitude and phase spectra change when we

- Increase A to $2A$
- Increase T to $2T$ but leave $\tau/T = 1/4$
- Increase τ/T from $1/4$ to $1/2$
- Decrease τ/T from $1/4$ to $1/8$

One of these gymnastic exercises is of particular interest:

Example: Unit impulse train

$\tau \rightarrow 0, A\tau = 1, T = \text{const.}$



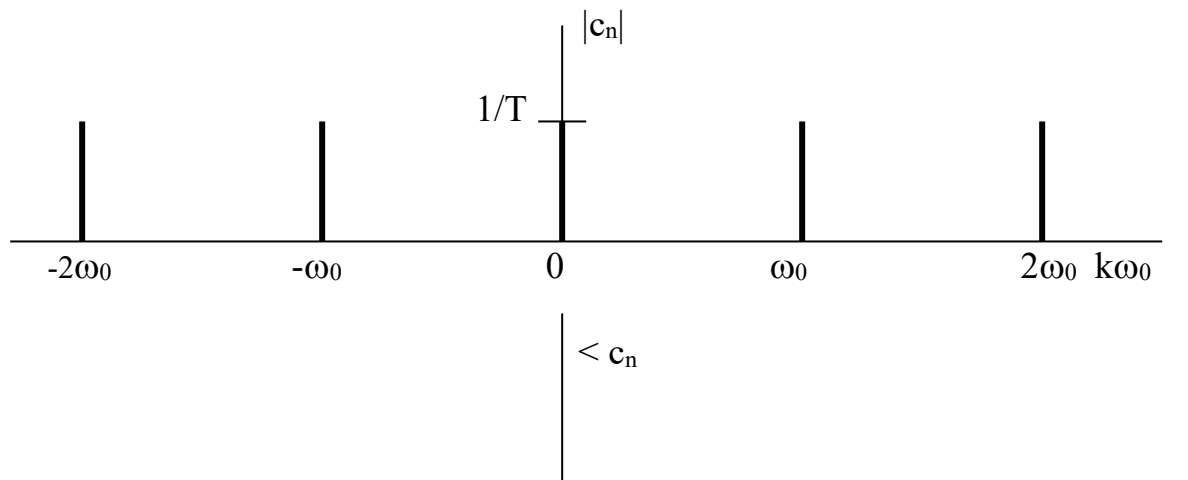
$$y(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t - nT)$$

$$c_n = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0, A\tau=1} \frac{A}{n\pi} \left(\sin \frac{n\pi\tau}{T} \right)$$

$$c_n = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0, A\tau=1} \frac{A}{n\pi} \left(\frac{n\pi\tau}{T} \right)$$

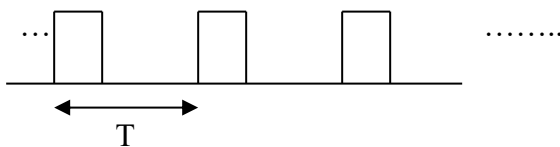
$$c_n = \frac{1}{T}$$

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{in\omega_0 t}$$

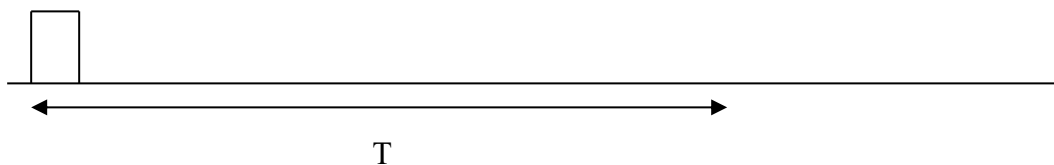


Note:

For a periodic signal, the Fourier series is an accurate expression for **all time** even though the integration for the computation of the coefficients is carried out over only one period.



For a non-periodic signal, the Fourier series is an accurate expression only **over the time interval assumed to be one period.**

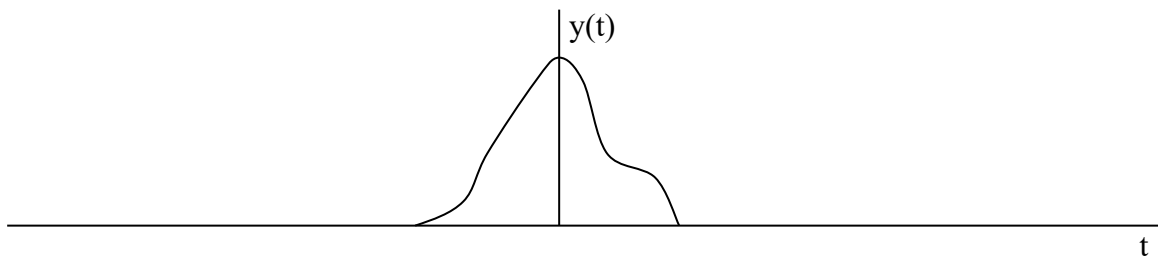


1.3 Fourier transform

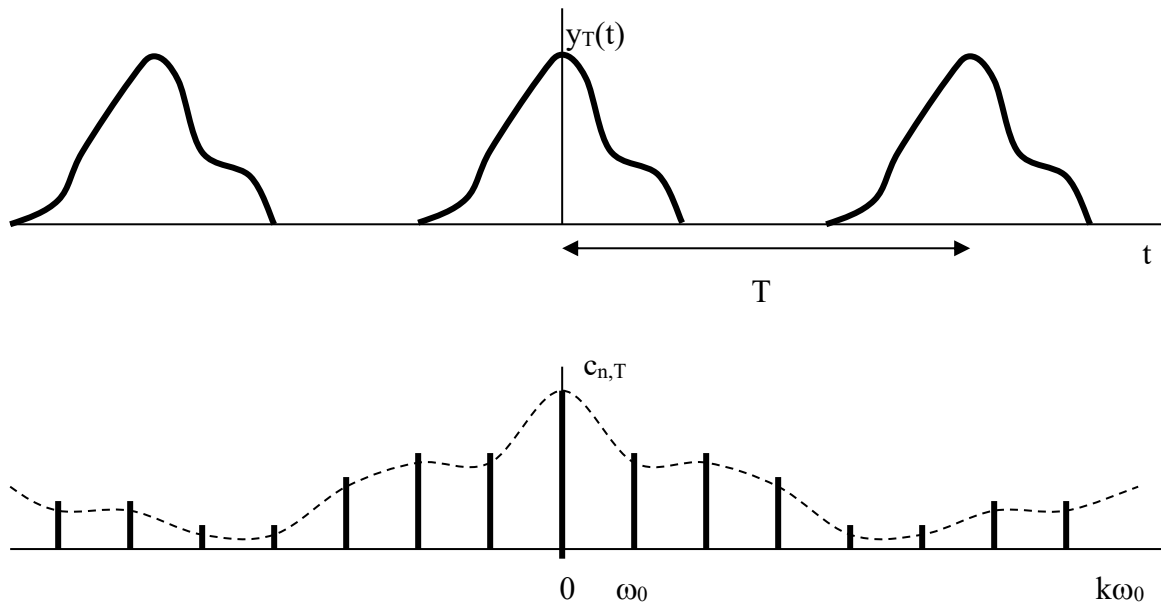
The exponential Fourier series (FS) is an extremely useful technique for the representation of periodic signals. They are also used for non-periodic signals for specific time intervals, or more generally, variable intervals, outside which the accuracy of the representation is unimportant.

The Fourier transform (FT) is used for the representation of a non-periodic signal that is valid for all time, or more generally, for the whole range of the variable.

The FT is obtained from the exponential FS via a limiting argument. Let us assume that we have an arbitrary function given below.



This is a non-periodic signal. To derive the FT from the FS we want to first consider the periodic version of this signal, $y_T(t)$, with period T , and its (assumed) spectrum, $c_{n,T}$ as sketched below.



Hopefully we are sufficiently fit through our previous Fourier gymnastics that we can now answer the following question:

What happens with the spectrum if we increase the period T but leave the shape of the pulses unchanged?

If the period T is increased, the fundamental frequency, ω_0 , decreases, the spectrum becomes denser, but the shape of the envelope of the spectrum remains (save for a scaling factor) unchanged.

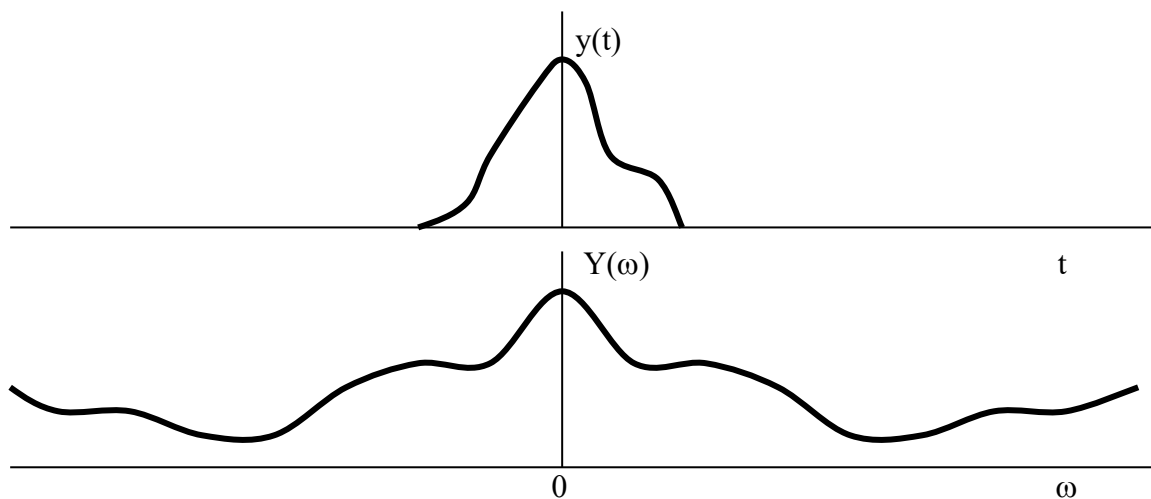
In the limit:

$$T \rightarrow \infty,$$

$$f_T(t) \rightarrow f(t)$$

$$c_{n,T} \rightarrow Y(\omega)$$

discrete spectrum \rightarrow continuous spectrum



$$y(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \bullet \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} Y(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega$$

$$Y(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} y(t) e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

$y(t)$ and $Y(\omega)$ are called: FT pair : $y(t) \leftrightarrow Y(\omega)$

Alternative expressions, with $\omega = 2\pi\nu$, are:

$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} Y(\nu) e^{i2\pi\nu t} d\nu$$

$$Y(\nu) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} y(t) e^{-i2\pi\nu t} dt$$

(should be $d\nu$)

In order for the FT to exist, we must have $Y(\omega) < \infty$.

How can we find out?

- 1) Evaluate the integral
- 2) Consider Dirichlet conditions

Dirichlet Conditions:

If

1)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |y(t)| dt < \infty$$

or

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |y(t)|^2 dt < \infty$$

and

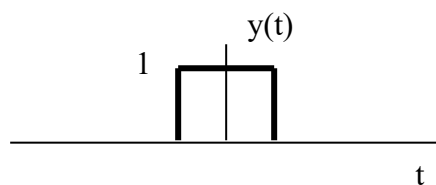
- 2) $y(t)$ has a finite number of maxima and minima in any finite interval, and
- 3) $y(t)$ has a finite number of discontinuities in any finite interval

then FT exists.

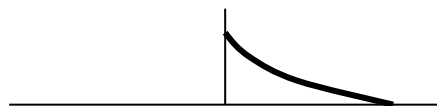
Note: If Dirichlet conditions are not fulfilled, then FT could perhaps still exist.

Examples

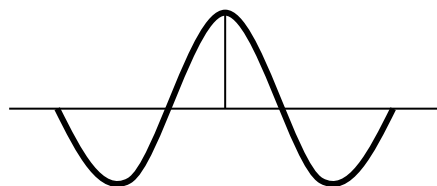
Here are four examples that do and do not fulfill the Dirichlet conditions:



$$y(t) = \Pi(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & |t| \leq 1/2 \\ 0, & |t| > 1/2 \end{cases}$$



$$y(t) = u(t)e^{-at}, \quad a > 0$$



$$y(t) = \cos \omega t$$

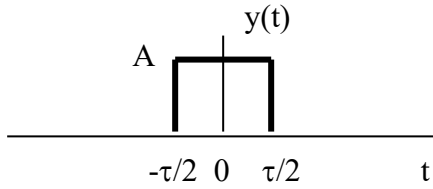


$$y(t) = u(t)$$

Which do and which do not fulfill the Dirichlet conditions? Here is the answer: The first two do and the last two do not.

Now, let us compute the FTs.

1st example: FT of the gate function



$$y(t) = A\Pi(t/\tau) = \begin{cases} A, & |t| \leq \tau/2 \\ 0, & |t| > \tau/2 \end{cases}$$

$$Y(\omega) = A \int_{-\tau/2}^{+\tau/2} e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

$$Y(\omega) = -\frac{A}{i\omega} e^{-i\omega t} \Big|_{-\tau/2}^{+\tau/2}$$

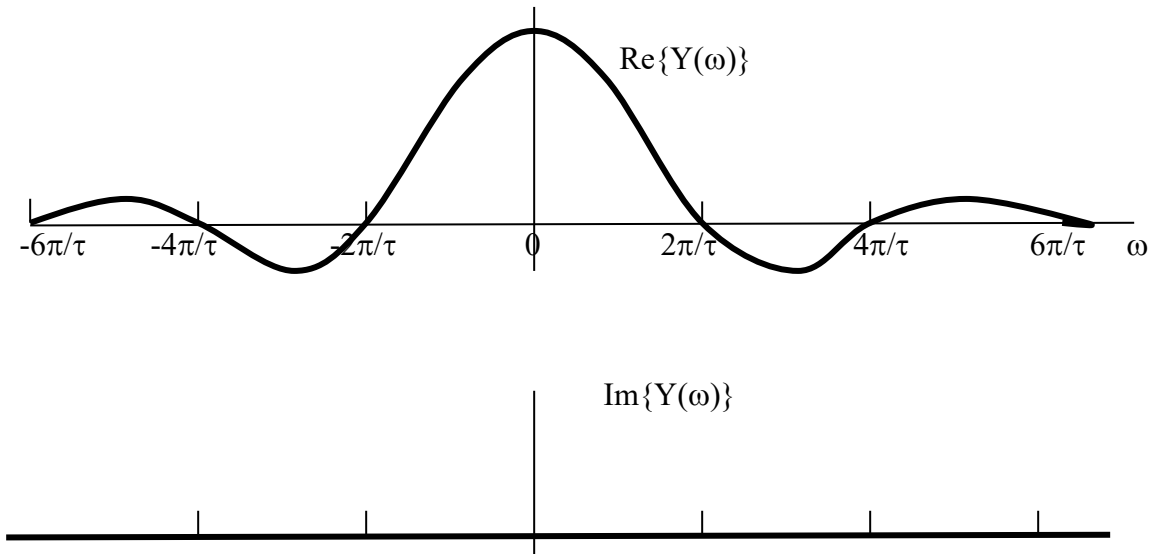
$$Y(\omega) = \frac{A}{i\omega} (e^{i\omega \frac{\tau}{2}} - e^{-i\omega \frac{\tau}{2}})$$

$$Y(\omega) = \frac{2A}{\omega} \sin \frac{\omega\tau}{2}$$

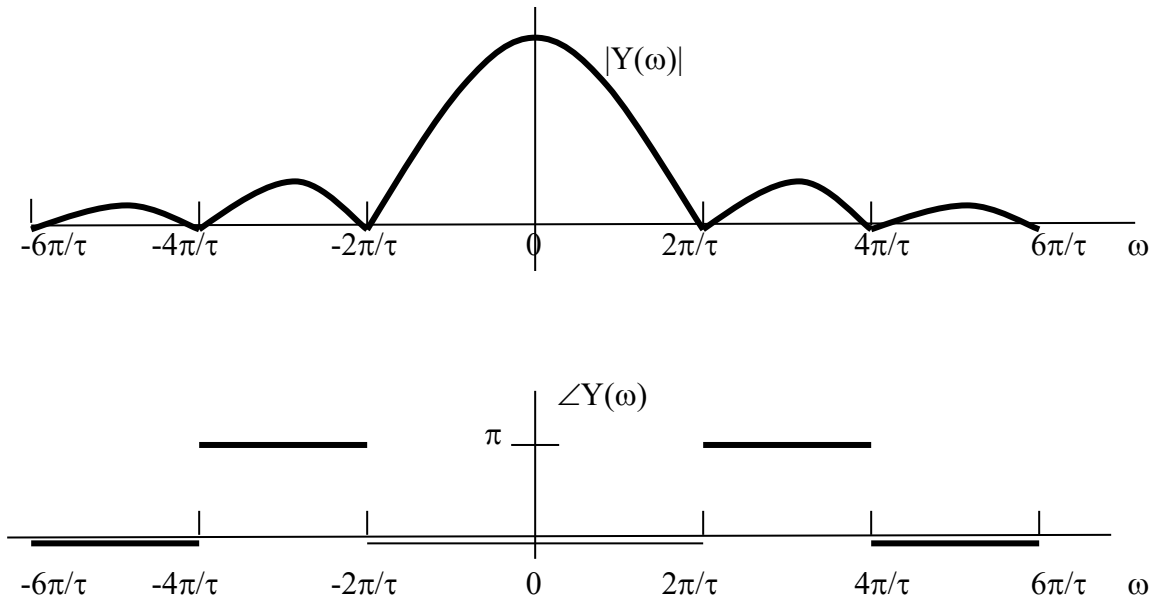
$$Y(\omega) = A\tau \frac{\sin \omega \frac{\tau}{2}}{\omega \frac{\tau}{2}}$$

$Y(\omega)$ is a real function and has zero-crossings at $\omega\tau/2 = \pm\pi, \pm2\pi, \pm3\pi, \dots$

That means that we have zero-crossings at $\omega = \pm 2\pi/\tau, \pm 4\pi/\tau, \pm 6\pi/\tau, \dots$



We can also plot the magnitude and phase spectra:

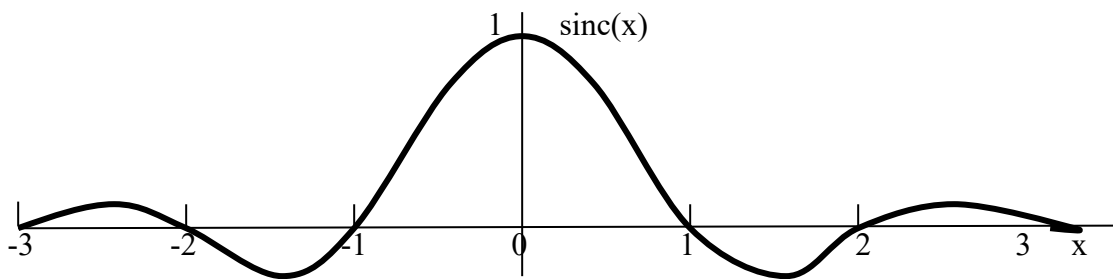


The function of the form $\frac{\sin x}{x}$ plays an important role in signal theory.

$$\text{sinc}(x) = \frac{\sin \pi x}{\pi x}$$

Sinc function:

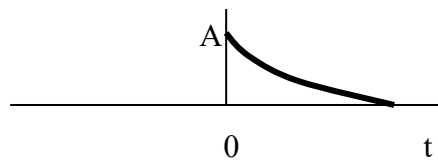
$$\Pi\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right) \leftrightarrow \tau \text{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega\tau}{2\pi}\right)$$



For the gate function: $\Pi\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right)$ we can now write:

$$\Pi\left(\frac{t}{\tau}\right) \leftrightarrow \tau \text{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega\tau}{2\pi}\right)$$

2nd example: FT of the exponentially decaying function



$$y(t) = Au(t)e^{-at}, a > 0$$

$$Y(\omega) = A \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-(a+i\omega)t} dt$$

$$Y(\omega) = -\frac{A}{a+i\omega} e^{-(a+i\omega)t} \Big|_0^{+\infty}$$

$$Y(\omega) = \frac{A}{a+i\omega}$$

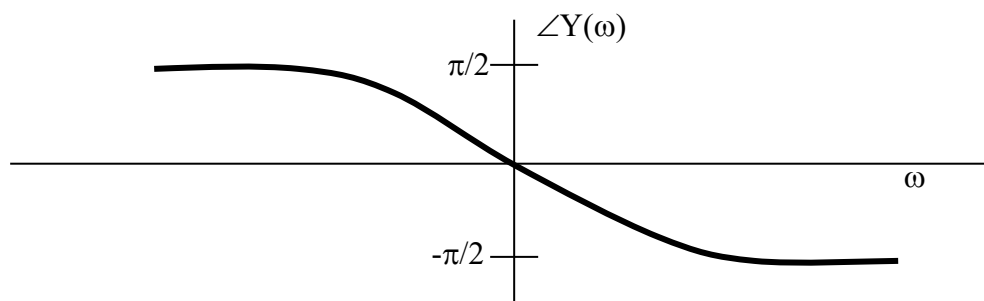
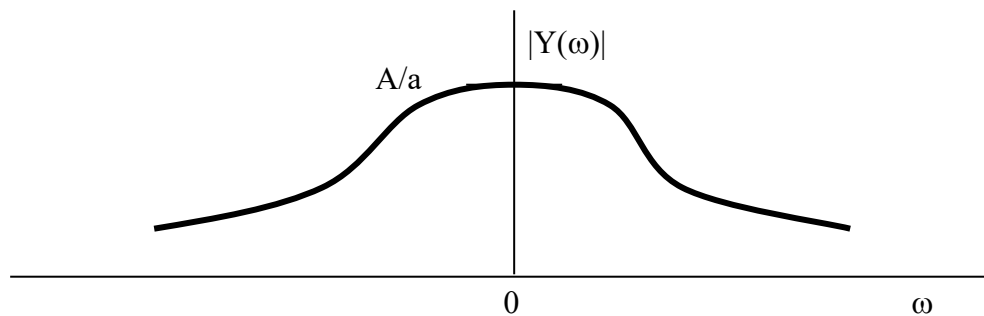
$$Y(\omega) = \frac{A}{a^2 + \omega^2} (a - i\omega)$$

$$|Y(\omega)| = \frac{A}{a^2 + \omega^2} (a^2 + \omega^2)^{1/2}$$

$$|Y(\omega)| = \frac{A}{(a^2 + \omega^2)^{1/2}}$$

$$\angle Y(\omega) = \tan^{-1} \frac{-\omega}{a}$$

$$\angle Y(\omega) = -\tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{a}$$



The two other functions do not fulfill the Dirichlet conditions, however, their FT exists anyway. For the computation of the FT of these two other functions we need the δ -function which is also called the unit impulse function:

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

Properties of the δ -function

1) Shifting property or sampling property:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) \delta(t) dt = f(0)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) \delta(t - t_0) dt = f(t_0)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t - t_1) \delta(t - t_2) dt = f(t_2 - t_1)$$

2) Scaling property:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) \delta(at) dt = \frac{1}{|a|} f(0)$$

3) derivative property:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) \delta^{(n)}(t - t_0) dt = (-1)^n f^{(n)}(t) \Big|_{t=t_0}$$

Now we can compute the FT of the δ -function:

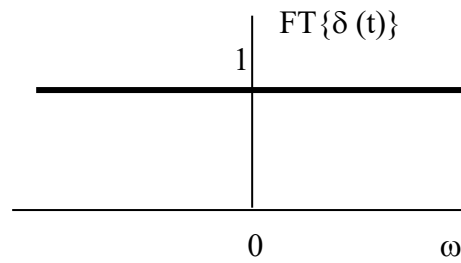
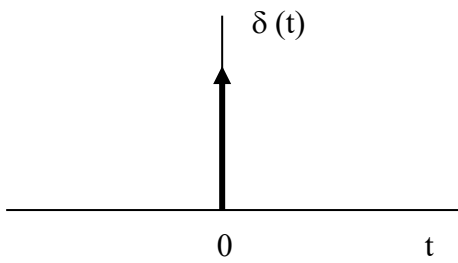
$$\text{FT}\{\delta(t)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

$$\text{FT}\{\delta(t)\} = 1$$

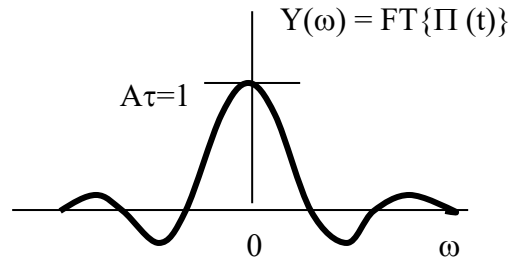
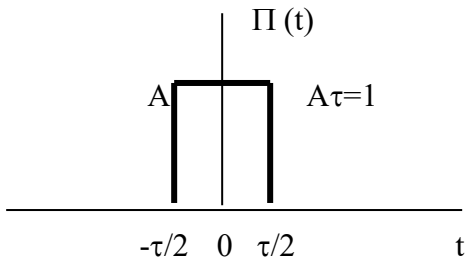
And since FT is unique, $\delta(t)$ is the inverse FT of 1

$$\delta(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} 1 e^{i\omega t} d\omega$$

$$\delta(t) \leftrightarrow 1$$



Note: This result can also be obtained through a limiting argument;



FT of a constant:

$$FT\{1\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} 1e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

this is not absolutely integrable. δ -function is needed. Also we have to do a change of variables to be able to use a previous equation.

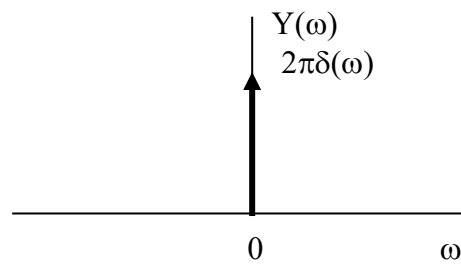
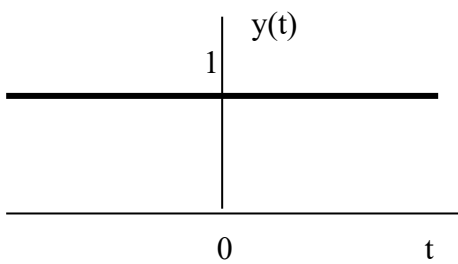
$t = -x \Rightarrow dt = -dx$, interval boundaries need a sign change too.

$$FT\{1\} = \int_{-(-\infty)}^{-(+\infty)} 1e^{-i\omega(-x)}(-dx)$$

$$FT\{1\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} 1e^{i\omega x} dx$$

$$FT\{1\} = 2\pi\delta(\omega)$$

$$1 \leftrightarrow 2\pi\delta(\omega)$$



Now it gets really exciting since we can now compute the FTs of the other two example functions.

3rd example: FT of the cos function

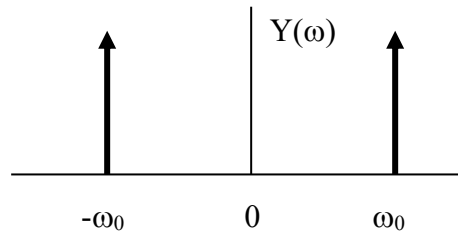
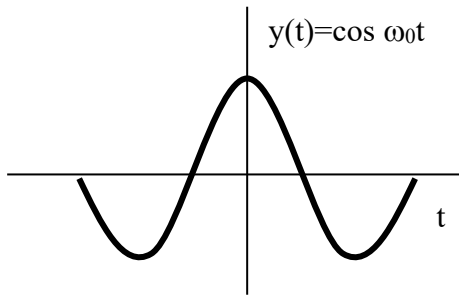
$$\text{FT}\{\cos\omega_0 t\} = \frac{1}{2}\text{FT}\{e^{i\omega_0 t} + e^{-i\omega_0 t}\}$$

$$\text{FT}\{\cos\omega_0 t\} = \frac{1}{2}\left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-i(\omega-\omega_0)t} dt + e^{-i(\omega+\omega_0)t} dt\right]$$

And again with change of variables: $t = -x$

$$\text{FT}\{\cos\omega_0 t\} = \frac{1}{2}\left[\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{i(\omega-\omega_0)x} dx + e^{i(\omega+\omega_0)x} dx\right]$$

$$\text{FT}\{\cos\omega_0 t\} = \pi\delta(\omega - \omega_0) + \pi\delta(\omega + \omega_0)$$



Note:

The FT was originally defined for non-periodic signals. Now we find FT's also for certain periodic signals through the use of the δ -function. In fact we can find the FT for any general, periodic function! The procedure is to write down the complex exponential FS for a function $f(t)$ and then take the FT of the series on a term to term basis.

$$\text{FT}\{y(t)\} = \text{FT}\left\{\sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_n e^{in\omega_0 t}\right\}$$

$$\text{FT}\{y(t)\} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_n \text{FT}\{e^{in\omega_0 t}\}$$

$$\text{FT}\{y(t)\} = 2\pi \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_n \delta(\omega - n\omega_0)$$

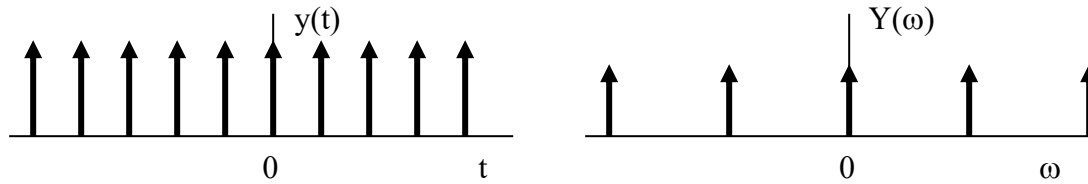
Example: Train of unit impulses

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t - nT)$$

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{in\omega_0 t} \quad (\text{see p.9})$$

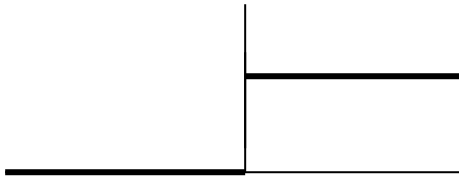
$$Y(\omega) = \frac{2\pi}{T} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(\omega - n\omega_0)$$

$$Y(\omega) = \omega_0 \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(\omega - n\omega_0)$$

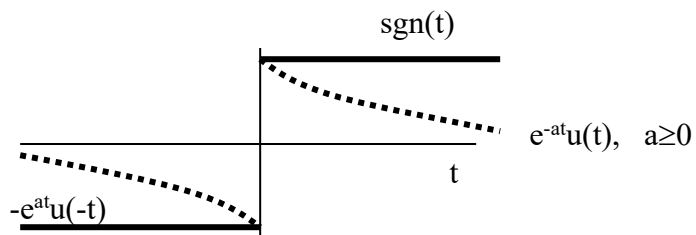


4th example: FT of the step function

$$u(t) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \text{sgn}(t)$$



First we compute the FT of the sign function through a limiting argument.



$$\text{sgn}(t) = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} [e^{-at}u(t) - e^{at}u(-t)]$$

$$\text{FT}\{\text{sgn}(t)\} = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \left[\int_0^{\infty} e^{-at} e^{-i\omega t} dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{at} e^{-i\omega t} dt \right]$$

$$\text{FT}\{\text{sgn}(t)\} = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \left[\int_0^{\infty} e^{-(a+i\omega)t} dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{+(a-i\omega)t} dt \right]$$

$$\text{FT}\{\text{sgn}(t)\} = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \left[-\frac{1}{a+i\omega} e^{-(a+i\omega)t} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \frac{1}{a-i\omega} e^{(a-i\omega)t} \Big|_{-\infty}^0 \right]$$

$$\text{FT}\{\text{sgn}(t)\} = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{a + i\omega} - \frac{1}{a - i\omega} \right]$$

$$\text{FT}\{\text{sgn}(t)\} = \frac{2}{i\omega}$$

$$\text{sgn}(t) \leftrightarrow \frac{2}{i\omega}$$

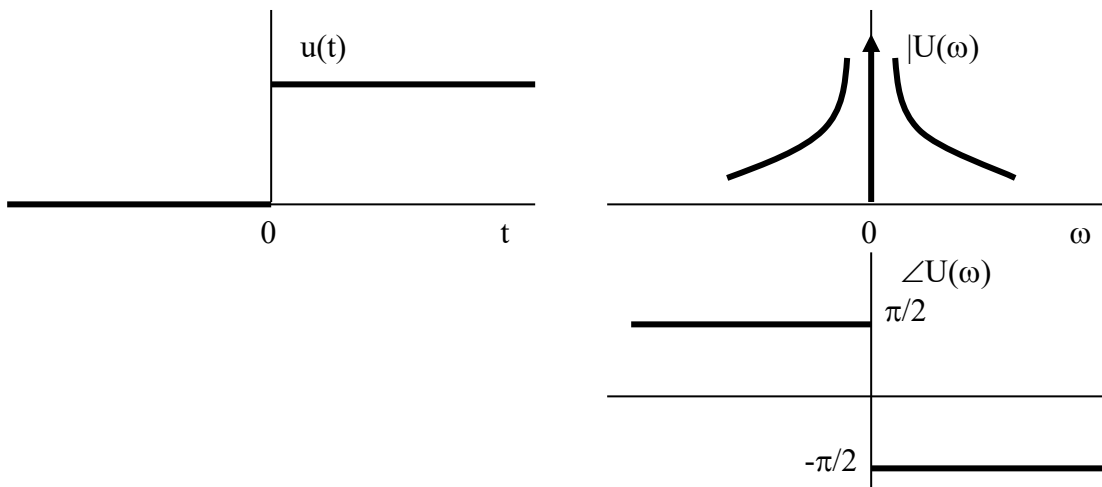
Now we can compute the FT of the step function.

$$\text{FT}\left\{\frac{1}{2}\right\} = \frac{1}{2} 2\pi\delta(\omega)$$

$$\text{FT}\{u(t)\} = \pi\delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{i\omega}$$

$$\Re\{\text{FT}\{u(t)\}\} = \pi\delta(\omega)$$

$$\Im\{\text{FT}\{u(t)\}\} = -\frac{1}{\omega}$$



1.4 Properties of the Fourier transform

Symmetry property:

If $f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\omega)$ then

$$F(t) \leftrightarrow 2\pi f(-\omega)$$

Example:

$$\text{sgn}(t) \leftrightarrow 2/(i\omega)$$

$$2/(it) \leftrightarrow 2\pi \operatorname{sgn}(-\omega)$$

$$i/(\pi t) \leftrightarrow \operatorname{sgn}(\omega)$$

Linearity property:

If $f_1(t) \leftrightarrow F_1(\omega)$ and $f_2(t) \leftrightarrow F_2(\omega)$, then for arbitrary constants a, b
 $af_1(t) + bf_2(t) \leftrightarrow aF_1(\omega) + bF_2(\omega)$

Note: This is very useful, since it means that you can compute the FT in steps.

Time-shifting property:

If $f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\omega)$
 $f(t - t_0) \leftrightarrow F(\omega)e^{-i\omega t_0}$ then

Note: If

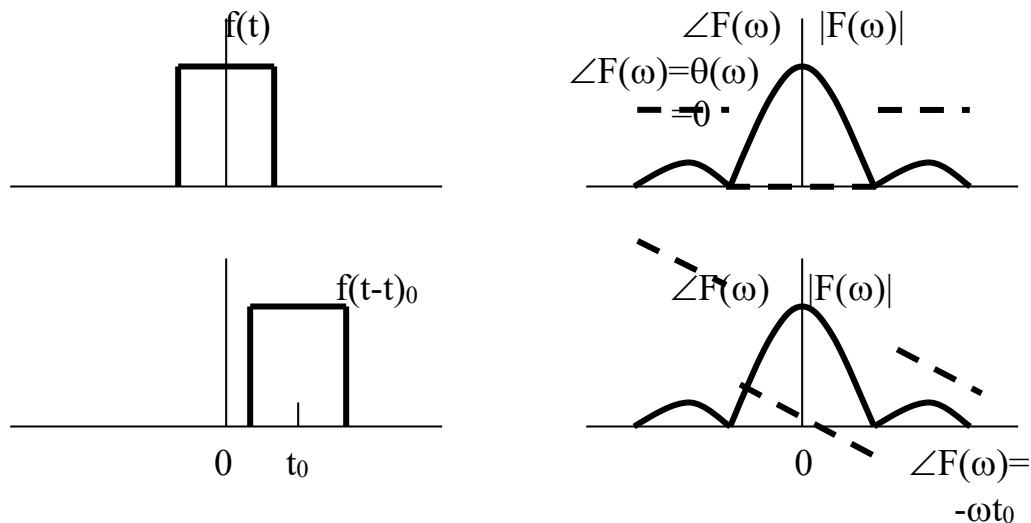
$$F(\omega) = |F(\omega)|e^{i\theta(\omega)}$$

$$f(t - t_0) \leftrightarrow |F(\omega)|e^{i(\theta(\omega) - \omega t_0)}$$

A shift of t in the time domain leaves the magnitude spectrum unchanged, but the phase spectrum acquires an additional term $-\omega t_0$, see, for instance:

$$\cos \omega(t - t_0) = \cos(\omega t - \omega t_0)$$

Example:



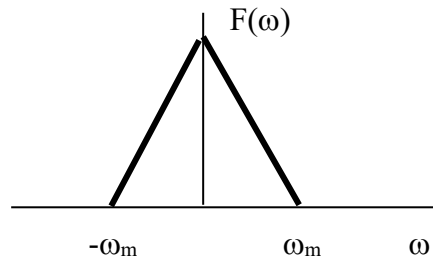
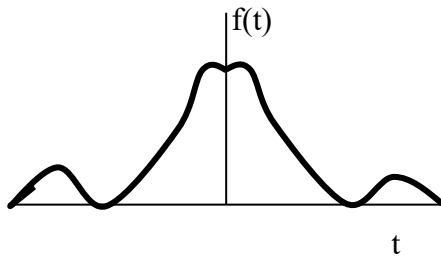
Frequency-shifting property:

If

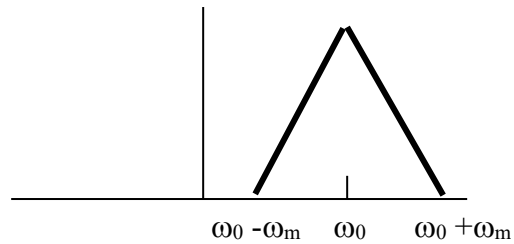
$$f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\omega)$$

$$f(t)e^{i\omega_0 t} \leftrightarrow F(\omega - \omega_0) \quad \text{then}$$

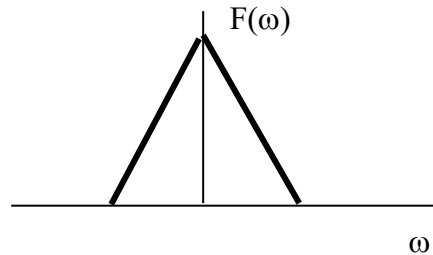
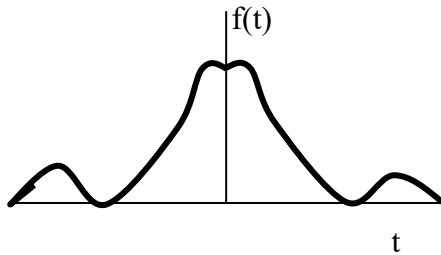
Example 1:



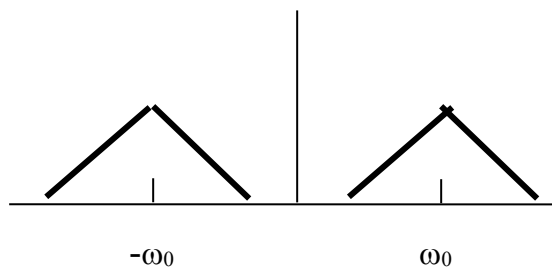
$$f(t)e^{i\omega_0 t}$$



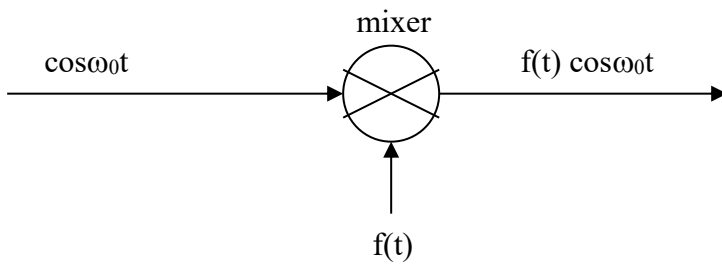
Example 2:



$$f(t)\cos(\omega_0 t)$$



In radio technology you often need to translate a spectrum to a different frequency range, e.g. baseband \rightarrow IF \rightarrow RF or RF \rightarrow IF \rightarrow baseband. This is achieved through the use of up and down-converters, or mixers.



Time-differentiation property

If

$$f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\omega)$$

then

$$\frac{d}{dt} f(t) \leftrightarrow i\omega F(\omega)$$

$$\frac{d^n}{dt^n} f(t) \leftrightarrow (i\omega)^n F(\omega)$$

Time-integration property

If

$$f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\omega)$$

then

$$\int_{-\infty}^t f(x) dx \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{i\omega} F(\omega) + \pi F(0)\delta(\omega)$$

Scaling property

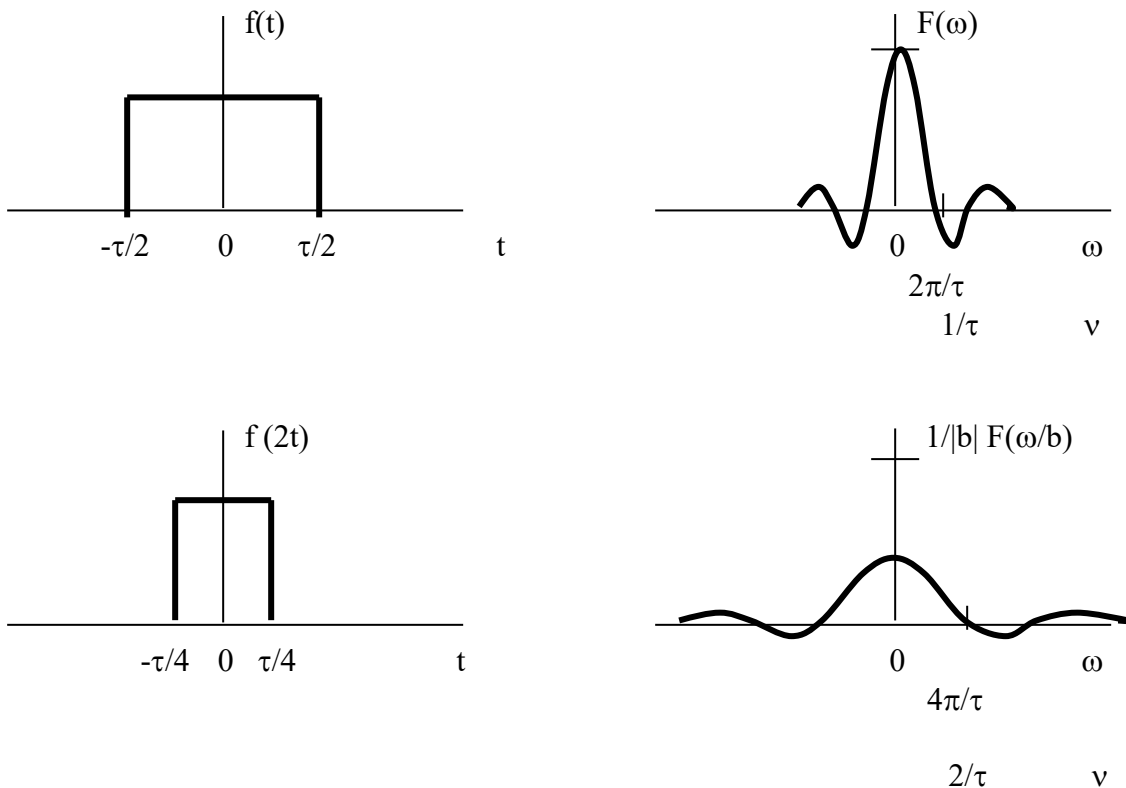
If

$$f(t) \leftrightarrow F(\omega)$$

then for a real constant b

$$f(bt) \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{|b|} F\left(\frac{\omega}{b}\right)$$

Example:



1.5 The two-dimensional Fourier transform

So far we have used the variables, t and ω or ν in the context of FTs. These variables, time and frequency (radians per second and cycles per second) stand for physical quantities that are one-dimensional. However, in cases which are two-dimensional, an antenna, arrays of antennas, brightness distributions at the sky, pictures on a TV screen, etc., variables that describe two-dimensional quantities need to be used.

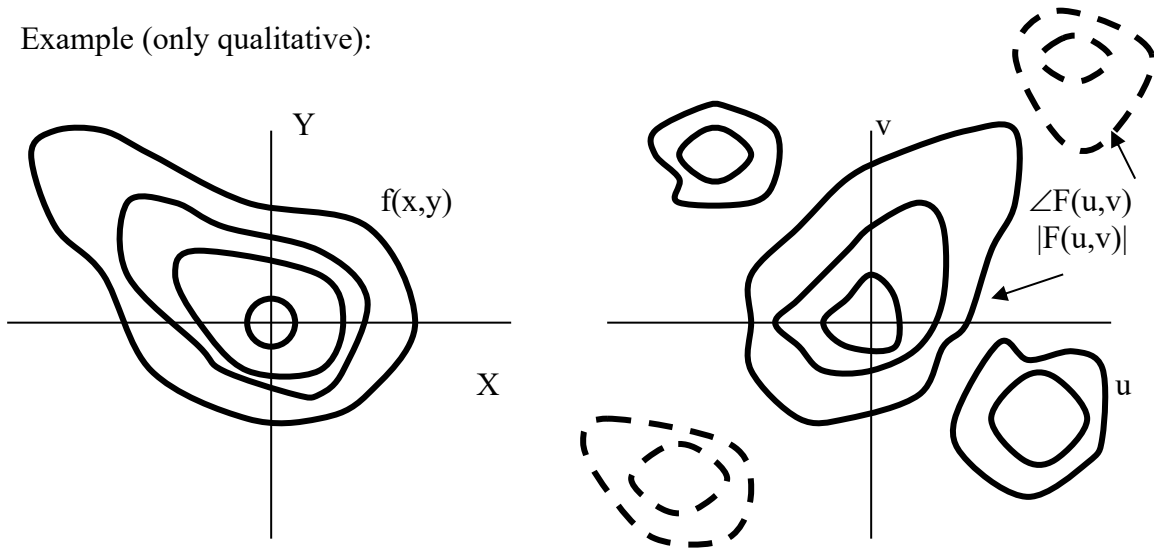
A two-dimensional function $f(x,y)$ has a two-dimensional Fourier transform $F(u,v)$ with

$$f(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(u,v) e^{i2\pi(ux+vy)} du dv$$

$$F(u,v) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x,y) e^{-i2\pi(ux+vy)} dx dy$$

If x, y are spatial coordinates like angles, then u, v are called spatial frequencies.

Example (only qualitative):



Properties of the two-dimensional Fourier transform

The properties of the two-dimensional FT are very similar to those of the one-dimensional FT. The most important for our purposes are:

Linearity property:

$$af_1(x,y) + bf_2(x,y) \Leftrightarrow aF_1(u,v) + bF_2(u,v)$$

Shifting property:

$$f(x-a, y-b) \Leftrightarrow F(u,v)e^{-i2\pi(au+bv)}$$

Modulation property:

$$f(x,y)e^{i\omega_0 x} \Leftrightarrow F\left(u - \frac{\omega_0}{2\pi}, v\right)$$

Scaling property:

$$f(ax, by) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{|ab|} F\left(\frac{u}{a}, \frac{v}{b}\right)$$

The extension to more than two dimensions is straight forward.