

Lecture 5: Operations on Periodic Signals

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ECE 401: Signal and Image Analysis, Fall 2023

- 1 Review: Spectrum
- 2 Spectral Properties of a Fourier Series
- 3 Signals with Time-Varying Fundamental Frequencies
- 4 Improvised Examples
- 5 Summary

Outline

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Two-sided spectrum

The **spectrum** of $x(t)$ is the set of frequencies, and their associated phasors,

$$\text{Spectrum}(x(t)) = \{(f_{-N}, a_{-N}), \dots, (f_0, a_0), \dots, (f_N, a_N)\}$$

such that

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N a_k e^{j2\pi f_k t}$$

Properties of the Spectrum

- **Scaling:**

$$y(t) = Gx(t) \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow Ga_k$$

- **Add a Constant:**

$$y(t) = x(t) + C \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow \begin{cases} a_0 + C & k = 0 \\ a_k & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- **Add Signals:** Suppose that the n^{th} frequency of $x(t)$, m^{th} frequency of $y(t)$, and k^{th} frequency of $z(t)$ are all the same frequency. Then

$$z(t) = x(t) + y(t) \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow a_n + a_m$$

Properties of the Spectrum

- **Time Shift:** Shifting to the right, in time, by τ seconds:

$$y(t) = x(t - \tau) \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow a_k e^{-j2\pi f_k \tau}$$

- **Frequency Shift:** Shifting upward in frequency by F Hertz:

$$y(t) = x(t) e^{j2\pi Ft} \Leftrightarrow f_k \rightarrow f_k + F$$

- **Differentiation:**

$$y(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow j2\pi f_k a_k$$

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Fourier Analysis and Synthesis

- **Fourier Analysis** (finding the spectrum, given the waveform):

$$X_k = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} x(t) e^{-j2\pi kt/T_0} dt$$

- **Fourier Synthesis** (finding the waveform, given the spectrum):

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} X_k e^{j2\pi kt/T_0}$$

Fourier Analysis and Synthesis

Compare this:

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} X_k e^{j2\pi kt/T_0}$$

to this:

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N a_k e^{j2\pi f_k t}$$

we see that a Fourier series is a spectrum in which the k^{th} frequency is $f_k = kF_0$, and the k^{th} phasor is $a_k = X_k$.

Scaling Property for Fourier Series

The scaling property for spectra is

$$y(t) = Gx(t) \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow Ga_k$$

Plugging in $f_k = kF_0$ and $a_k = X_k$, we get

$$y(t) = Gx(t) \Leftrightarrow Y_k = GX_k$$

Constant Offset Property

$$y(t) = x(t) + C \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow \begin{cases} a_0 + C & k = 0 \\ a_k & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Plugging in $f_k = kF_0$ and $a_k = X_k$, we get

$$y(t) = x(t) + C \Leftrightarrow Y_k = \begin{cases} X_0 + C & k = 0 \\ X_k & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Signal Addition Property

Suppose that $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ have the same fundamental frequency, F_0 . In that case they have the same frequencies $f_k = kF_0$ in their spectra, so

$$z(t) = x(t) + y(t) \Leftrightarrow Z_k = X_k + Y_k$$

Time Shift Property for Fourier Series

The **Time Shift** property of a spectrum is that, if you shift the signal $x(t)$ to the right by τ seconds, then:

$$y(t) = x(t - \tau) \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow a_k e^{-j2\pi f_k \tau}$$

Plugging in $f_k = kF_0$ and $a_k = X_k$, we get

$$y(t) = x(t - \tau) \Leftrightarrow Y_k = X_k e^{-j2\pi k F_0 \tau}$$

Frequency Shift Property for Fourier Series

The **Frequency Shift** property for spectra says that if we multiply by a complex exponential in the time domain, that shifts the entire spectrum by F :

$$y(t) = x(t)e^{j2\pi Ft} \Leftrightarrow f_k \rightarrow f_k + F$$

Suppose that the shift frequency is $F = dF_0$, i.e., it's some integer, d , times the fundamental. Then

- The phasor X_k is no longer active at kF_0 ; instead, now it's active at $(k + d)F_0$
- We can say that Y_k , the phasor at frequency kF_0 , is the same as X_{k-d} , the phase at frequency $(k - d)F_0$.

$$y(t) = x(t)e^{j2\pi Ft} \Leftrightarrow Y_k = X_{k-d}$$

Differentiation Property for Fourier Series

The **Differentiation** property for spectra is

$$y(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} \Leftrightarrow a_k \rightarrow j2\pi f_k a_k$$

If we plug in $f_k = kF_0$ and $a_k = X_k$, we get

$$y(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} \Leftrightarrow Y_k = j2\pi kF_0 X_k$$

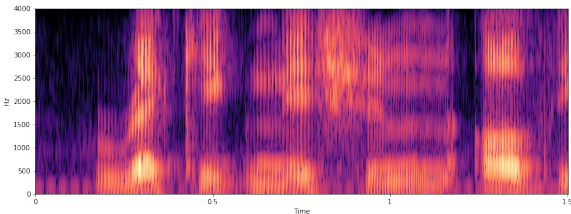
So differentiation in the time domain means multiplying by k in the frequency domain.

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Spectrogram

Many signals have time-varying fundamental frequencies. We show their spectral content by doing Fourier analysis once per 10ms or so, and plotting the log-magnitude Fourier series coefficients as an image called a **spectrogram**. For example, the spectrogram below is from part of Nicholas James Bridgewater's reading of the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)



Spectrogram

The [textbook demo page on spectrograms](#) has more good examples.

Chirp

You might not have noticed this, but we can write a pure tone as

$$x(t) = e^{j\phi}$$

where $\phi = 2\pi ft$ is the instantaneous phase. Notice that the relationship between frequency and phase is

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

Chirp

In the same way, we can usefully describe the **instantaneous frequency** of a chirp. For example, consider the linear chirp signal:

$$x(t) = e^{jat^2}$$

In this case, $\phi = at^2$, so

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \frac{a}{2\pi} t$$

The frequency is now changing as a function of time. Please look at the [textbook demo page](#) for more cool examples.

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Handwritten Examples

At this point, let's try doing some handwritten examples.

- Try picking any fundamental frequency. Pick any two harmonics of the fundamental. Put sine waves at both of those harmonics, and add them together to form $x(t)$. What are the resulting Fourier series coefficients? Try sketching this signal.
- Try using the differentiation property to find out what happens when $y(t) = dx/dt$.
- Try using the scaling or constant-shift property.

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Spectral Properties of Fourier Series

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$$y(t) = Gx(t) \Leftrightarrow Y_k = GX_k$$

- **Add a Constant:**

$$y(t) = x(t) + C \Leftrightarrow Y_k = \begin{cases} X_0 + C & k = 0 \\ X_k & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- **Add Signals:** Suppose that $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ have the same fundamental frequency, then

$$z(t) = x(t) + y(t) \Leftrightarrow Z_k = X_k + Y_k$$

Spectral Properties of Fourier Series

- **Time Shift:** Shifting to the right, in time, by τ seconds:

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- **Frequency Shift:** Shifting upward in frequency by F Hertz:

$$y(t) = x(t) e^{j2\pi d F_0 t} \Leftrightarrow Y_k = X_{k-d}$$

- **Differentiation:**

$$y(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} \Leftrightarrow Y_k = j2\pi k F_0 X_k$$