

# Fourier Series

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Where are we heading?

- For LTI systems, output is the convolution of input signal and impulse response
- Frequency domain descriptions such as Fourier series and Fourier transform provide an alternative view to analyze LTI systems with number of advantages.

e.g.-

- Convolution is simplified in frequency domain.
- It is intuitive and natural to analyze LTI systems.

- Representation of a signal in terms of basic signals  
Such set of basic signals should satisfy

- 01 - We need to be able to represent any signal in terms of such set.
- 02 - Response of an LTI system to any basic signal must be simple and insightful.

In short;

- 01 - Signal Representation
- 02 - System Characterization

Fortunately; complex exponentials form such set of basic signals.

Yes! Complex exponentials are eigenfunctions of LTI systems.

How?

- Consider a CT LTI system with impulse response  $h(t)$  and input  
$$x(t) = e^{st} \quad , s - \text{complex}$$

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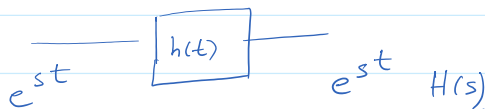
$$\begin{aligned} \text{output, } y(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\tau) x(t-\tau) d\tau \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\tau) e^{s(t-\tau)} d\tau \\ &= e^{st} H(s) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$H(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\tau) e^{-s\tau} d\tau$$

let's observe:-

$$\begin{aligned} \text{input: } &e^{st} \\ \text{output: } &e^{st} H(s) \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{same signal} \\ \text{scaled by } H(s) \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$



$\Rightarrow e^{st}$  is an eigenfunction of LTI system with eigenvalue  $H(s)$ .

#### • DT LTI SYSTEM:-

Impulse response;  $h[n]$

Input signal;  $x[n] = z^n$  (Complex Exponential)

$$y[n] = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k] x[n-k] = \left( \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k] z^{-k} \right) z^n$$

$$= H(z) z^n$$

where

$$H(z) \triangleq \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} h[k] z^{-k}$$

$\Rightarrow z^n$  is an eigenfunction of DT LTI system with eigenvalue  $H(z)$ .

Q: What is this all about? where are we heading?

Ans: Consider CT LTI system

Compare:

$$x(t) \longrightarrow \boxed{h(t)} \longrightarrow y(t) = \int x(\tau) h(t-\tau) d\tau$$

versus

$$e^{st} \longrightarrow \boxed{h(t)} \longrightarrow y(t) = H(s) e^{st}$$

- ↓
- No Complication
  - No Convolution
  - output is just a product.

Example 01

01  $x(t) = e^{j2t}$  input to CT LTI system  
with  $H(2j) = 1 + j\sqrt{3} = 2e^{j\pi/6}$

$$y(t) = x(t) * h(t) = ? \quad \text{We don't know } h(t) \text{ completely!}$$

$$y(t) = e^{j2t} H(2j) = 2e^{j(2t + \pi/6)}$$

Simple!

Example 02



$$x(t) = 4\cos(2t)$$

$$H_1(2j) = 1 + j\sqrt{3} = 2e^{j\pi/6}$$

$$H_1(-2j) = 1 - j\sqrt{3} = 2e^{-j\pi/6}$$

$$H_2(+2j) = 1 + j = \sqrt{2} e^{j\pi/4}$$

$$H_2(-2j) = 1 - j = \sqrt{2} e^{-j\pi/4}$$

$$x(t) = \underbrace{2e^{2jt}}_{x_1(t)} + \underbrace{2e^{-2jt}}_{x_2(t)}$$

$$y_1(t) = 4\sqrt{2} e^{2jt + j\pi/6 + j\pi/4}$$

$$y_2(t) = 4\sqrt{2} e^{-2jt - j\pi/6 - j\pi/4}$$

$$y(t) = y_1(t) + y_2(t) = 8\sqrt{2} \cos(2t + \pi/6 + \pi/4)$$

### \* OBSERVATIONS :

- These examples are revealing something "IMPORTANT"
- For LTI systems connected in series, we need to convolve input and impulse response to get an output.
- For complex exponential input  $e^{st}$ , we only need to multiply input with complex gain  $H(s)$ .
- Great! Complex exponentials are easy to work with.
- But! What about more general signals?
- Among general signals, we begin with "Periodic signals," and show that any periodic signal can be represented in terms of periodic complex exponentials. Such representation is known as "FOURIER SERIES."

### • FOURIER SERIES - CT PERIODIC SIGNAL

- Periodic Signal;  $x(t) = x(t+T)$   
 $T \rightarrow$  fundamental period.

Using  $T$ , we define  $\omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}$  (Fundamental frequency)

- Consider a signal:  $e^{j\omega_0 t}$  (Periodic with period  $T$ )

Also,  $e^{jk\omega_0 t}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  (Periodic with period  $T$ )

Also, their linear combination given by

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

is periodic with period  $T$ .

- $k=0$  term is the DC term
- $k=1, k=-1$  are first harmonic
- $k=2, k=-2$  — second —
- $k$ -th term has "FUNDAMENTAL" period  $\frac{T}{k}$ .

- Representation in (A) is known as FOURIER SERIES REPRESENTATION of a CT periodic signal.
- $a_k$ ,  $k=0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \dots$  are known as FOURIER SERIES COEFFICIENTS.

Q: Can we represent any periodic signal as in (A)?

ANS: Yes! (Almost, all of signals)

Then, we need to develop a method to find  $a_k$  given  $x(t)$ . Let's do a simple example.

Example:

$$x(t) = 4 \cos(4\pi t) + 3 \sin(8\pi t)$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \omega_0 = 4\pi$$

$$x(t) = 2e^{j4\pi t} + 2e^{-j4\pi t} - \frac{3j}{2}e^{j8\pi t} + \frac{3j}{2}e^{-j8\pi t}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = 2, \quad a_{-1} = 2$$

$$a_2 = -\frac{3j}{2}, \quad a_{-2} = \frac{3j}{2}$$

$$a_k = 0 \quad \text{otherwise}$$

- In this example we could read-off Fourier Series coefficients.
- What should we do for a general signal?

- Consider

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_T x(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt \quad \text{(Integration over one period)} \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k \int_T e^{jk\omega_0 t} e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k T \delta[n-k] = T a_n \end{aligned}$$

### SUMMARY:

We can represent any CT periodic signal  $x(t)$  with fundamental period  $T$  and  $\omega_0 \triangleq \frac{2\pi}{T}$  as

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

- This representation is called FOURIER SERIES REPRESENTATION OR SYNTHESIS EQUATION.
- " $a_k$ " is called  $k$ -th FOURIER SERIES (FS) COEFFICIENT, and is given by

$$a_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_T x(t) e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt$$

COEFFICIENT, and is given by

$$a_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_T x(t) e^{-jk\omega_0 t} dt$$

Equation, known as ANALYSIS EQUATION, is used, in general,  
to compute k-th FS coefficient.