6.3000: Signal Processing

Sinusoids and Fourier Series

February 06, 2025

Fourier Series (Trigonometric Form)

If f(t) is expressed as a Fourier series

$$f(t) = f(t+T) = c_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(c_k \cos(k\omega_o t) + d_k \sin(k\omega_o t) \right)$$

the Fourier coefficients are given by

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{T} \int_T f(t) \, dt$$

$$c_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_T f(t) \cos(k\omega_o t) dt; \ k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$d_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_T f(t) \sin(k\omega_o t) dt; \ k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Two Pulses

Let $f_1(t)$ represent the following function, which is periodic in T = 7:



Determine a Fourier series of the following form for $f_1(t)$.

$$f_1(t) = c_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(c_k \cos(k\omega_o t) + d_k \sin(k\omega_o t) \right)$$

Two Pulses

The average value is
$$c_0 = rac{1}{T} \int_T f_1(t) \, dt.$$

There are many equivalent ways to integrate over a period:

$$\int_T dt = \int_0^7 dt = \int_{-7/2}^{7/2} dt = \cdots$$

All of these are easy. The result is $c_0 = \frac{2}{7}$.

Two Pulses

For
$$k \ge 1$$
:

$$c_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_T f_1(t) \cos(k\omega_o t) dt$$

Integrating over symmetric limits simplifies the math (slightly):

$$c_{k} = \frac{2}{7} \int_{-2}^{2} \cos(k\omega_{o}t) dt - \frac{2}{7} \int_{-1}^{1} \cos(k\omega_{o}t) dt$$
$$= \frac{2}{7} \frac{\sin(k\omega_{0}t)}{k\omega_{o}} \Big|_{-2}^{2} - \frac{2}{7} \frac{\sin(k\omega_{0}t)}{k\omega_{o}} \Big|_{-1}^{1}$$
$$= \frac{2}{\pi k} \Big(\sin \frac{4k\pi}{7} - \sin \frac{2k\pi}{7} \Big)$$

Demonstrate other ways to do this integration, e.g.,

$$\int_{-2}^{1} dt + \int_{1}^{2} dt \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{1}^{2} dt + \int_{6}^{7} dt \quad \text{or} \quad 2\int_{1}^{2} dt$$

Since $f_1(t)$ is symmetric, and harmonics of the sine function are antisymmetric, the d_k coefficients are all zero.

$$d_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_T f_1(t) \sin(k\omega_o t) \, dt = 0$$

Checking with Python

Sum the first 100 elements of series:



Opposite Pulses

Let $f_2(t)$ represent the following function, which is periodic in T = 7:



Find ω_o and the Fourier series coefficients c_k and d_k so that

$$f_2(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(c_k \cos(k\omega_o t) + d_k \sin(k\omega_o t) \right)$$

Opposite Pulses

The previous problem was symmetric about t = 0 so there were only cosine terms.

This problem is antisymmetric about t = 0 so there are only sine terms.

Do the calculation using several different regions of integration.

Single Pulse

Let $f_3(t)$ represent the following function, which is periodic in T = 7:



Determine the Fourier series coefficients for $f_3(t)$.

Discuss the relation(s) among the Fourier series coefficients of $f_1(t)$, $f_2(t)$, and $f_3(t)$.

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Check With Python

It's interesting that overshoots move around. They are "glued" to the discontinuities.

Trig Table

sin(a+b) = sin(a) cos(b) + cos(a) sin(b)sin(a-b) = sin(a) cos(b) - cos(a) sin(b) $\cos(a+b) = \cos(a) \cos(b) - \sin(a) \sin(b)$ $\cos(a-b) = \cos(a) \cos(b) + \sin(a) \sin(b)$ $\tan(a+b) = (\tan(a)+\tan(b))/(1-\tan(a) \tan(b))$ $\tan(a-b) = (\tan(a)-\tan(b))/(1+\tan(a)) \tan(b)$ sin(A) + sin(B) = 2 sin((A+B)/2) cos((A-B)/2)sin(A) - sin(B) = 2 cos((A+B)/2) sin((A-B)/2) $\cos(A) + \cos(B) = 2 \cos((A+B)/2) \cos((A-B)/2)$ $\cos(A) - \cos(B) = -2 \sin((A+B)/2) \sin((A-B)/2)$ sin(a+b) + sin(a-b) = 2 sin(a) cos(b)sin(a+b) - sin(a-b) = 2 cos(a) sin(b) $\cos(a+b) + \cos(a-b) = 2 \cos(a) \cos(b)$ $\cos(a+b) - \cos(a-b) = -2 \sin(a) \sin(b)$ $2 \cos(A) \cos(B) = \cos(A-B) + \cos(A+B)$

 $2 \sin(A) \sin(B) = \cos(A-B) - \cos(A+B)$ $2 \sin(A) \cos(B) = \sin(A+B) + \sin(A-B)$ $2 \cos(A) \sin(B) = \sin(A+B) - \sin(A-B)$