# Fourier Series

- Let g(t) be a periodic function of time with period  $T_0 = \frac{1}{f_0}$  such that
  - The function g(t) is absolutely integrable over one period, i.e.,,  $\int_0^{T_0} |g(t)| dt < \infty$
  - Any discontinuities in g(t) are finite (the amount of jump at points of discontinuity is finite).
  - g(t) has only a finite number of discontinuities and only a finite number of maxima and minima in the period
- When these conditions (called the Dirichlet's conditions) apply, g(t) may be expanded in a trigonometric Fourier series of the form
- $g(t) \sim a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t)$ , where,
  - $a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} g(t) dt$ ; (dc or average value)
  - $a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} g(t) \cos n\omega_0 t \, dt$
  - $b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} g(t) \sin n\omega_0 t \, dt$



- These conditions are sufficient (but not necessary)
- In this representation, we can associate with g(t) a FS. This does not mean equality.
- At points where g(t) is continuous, the FS converges to the function g(t)
- At a point of discontinuity  $t_0$ , the FS converges to  $\frac{1}{2}(g(t_0 -) + g(t_0 +))$

## **Coefficients of the Fourier Series**

- $g(t) \sim a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t), (1)$
- Orthogonality Relations: You can easily verify the following relations:

• 
$$\int_{0}^{T_{0}} \cos n\omega_{0} t \cos m\omega_{0} t = \begin{cases} \frac{T_{0}}{2} & , n = m \\ 0 & n \neq m \end{cases}$$
• 
$$\int_{0}^{T_{0}} \sin n\omega_{0} t \sin m\omega_{0} t = \begin{cases} \frac{T_{0}}{2} & , n = m \\ 0 & n \neq m \end{cases}$$

• 
$$\int_0^{T_0} \sin n\omega_0 t \cos m\omega_0 t = 0$$
 for all n and m.

- To get  $a_0$ , we integrate both sides of (1) with respect to t over one period.
- $\int_0^{T_0} g(t) dt \sim \int_0^{T_0} a_0 dt + \int_0^{T_0} [\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t)] dt$
- **Result:**  $a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} g(t) dt$ ; (dc or average value)

# **Coefficients of the Fourier Series**

- $g(t) \sim a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t)$ , (1)
- To get  $a_n$ , we multiply both sides of (1) by  $\cos m\omega_0 t$ , integrate over one period and use the orthogonality relations.
- $\int_{0}^{T_{0}} g(t) \cos m\omega_{0} t \, dt \sim \int_{0}^{T_{0}} a_{0} \cos m\omega_{0} t \, dt$  $+ \int_{0}^{T_{0}} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_{n} \cos n\omega_{0} t + b_{n} \sin n\omega_{0} t) \cos m\omega_{0} t\right] dt$

• **Result**: 
$$a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} g(t) \cos n\omega_0 t \, dt$$

- To get  $b_n$ , we multiply both sides of (1) by  $\sin m\omega_0 t$ , integrate over one period and use the orthogonality relations.
- $\int_{0}^{T_{0}} g(t) \sin m\omega_{0} t \, dt \sim \int_{0}^{T_{0}} a_{0} \sin m\omega_{0} t \, dt$  $+ \int_{0}^{T_{0}} \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_{n} \cos n\omega_{0} t + b_{n} \sin n\omega_{0} t) \sin m\omega_{0} t \right] dt$  $\cdot \text{Result:} \ b_{n} = \frac{2}{T_{0}} \int_{0}^{T_{0}} g(t) \sin n\omega_{0} t \, dt$

## Example: Existence of Fourier Series

- The Dirichlet conditions apply to the waveform given below.
- The function g(t) is absolutely integrable, i.e.,  $\int_0^{T_0} |g(t)| dt < \infty$ .
- The function g(t) is continuous over the period (no discontinuities)
- Has one maximum and one minimum within one period.
- Therefore, the FS exists. Moreover, the FS converges to g(t) at all points. That is,

•  $g(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t);$ 

Note the equality sign



### **Example: Existence of Fourier Series**

• Let g(t), defined over one period, be given by

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} -\ln(1-t), & 0 < t < 1 \\ 1, & 1 < t < 2 \end{cases}$$

- $\lim_{t \to 1} (g(t)) = -\ln(1-t) \to \infty$
- the function g(t) has a discontinuity. However, this discontinuity is infinite.
- Therefore, the FS does not exists



### Example: Fourier Series Coefficient Evaluation

• **Example**: Find the trigonometric Fourier series of the periodic rectangular signal defined over one period  $T_0$  as:

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} +A, \ -T_0/4 \le t \le T_0/4 \\ 0, \ otherwise \end{cases}$$

• Solution: The FS is given as  $g(t) \sim a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t)$ 

• 
$$a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) dt = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/4}^{T_0/4} A dt = A/2$$
  
•  $b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) \sin(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/4}^{T_0/4} A \sin(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt = 0$   
•  $a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) \cos(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/4}^{T_0/4} A \cos(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt$   
•  $a_n = \begin{cases} \frac{2A}{n\pi}, & n = 1, 5, 9, ... \\ \frac{-2A}{n\pi}, & n = 2, 4, 6 ... \end{cases}$ 
 $-T_0/2 \quad 0 \quad T_0/2$ 

### **Example: Convergence of Fourier Series**

- The first four terms in the expansion of g(t) are:
- $\tilde{g}(t) = \frac{A}{2} + \frac{2A}{\pi} \{ \cos(2\pi f_0 t) \frac{1}{3}\cos(2\pi 3f_0 t) + \frac{1}{5}\cos(2\pi 5f_0 t) \}$
- The function  $\tilde{g}(t)$  along with g(t) are plotted in the figure for  $-1 \le t \le 1$ assuming A = 1 and  $f_0 = 1$

**Comments:** As more terms are added to  $\tilde{g}(t)$ ,  $\tilde{g}(t)$  becomes closer to g(t) and in the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\tilde{g}(t)$  becomes equal to g(t) at all points except at the points of discontinuity.



### **Convergence of the Fourier Series**

The Fourier series of the signal  $g(t) = \begin{cases} +A, -T_0/4 \le t \le T_0/4 \\ 0, & otherwise \end{cases}$  is given by

- $g(t) \sim a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega_0 t + b_n \sin n\omega_0 t)$ . The FS is shown in the figure below
- $a_0 = A/2$ ,  $b_n = 0$ , •  $a_n = \begin{cases} \frac{2A}{n\pi}, & n = 1, 5, 9, \dots \\ \frac{-2A}{n\pi}, & n = 3, 7, 11, \dots \\ 0, & n = 2, 4, 6 \dots \end{cases}$ 
  - The FS converges to g(t) at all points where g(t) is continuous
  - Converges to A/2, the average value at points of discontinuity.  $g(t)_{A}$



### Fourier Cosine and Sine Series

- Let g(t) be a periodic function of time with period  $T_0 = \frac{1}{f_0}$  such that its FS exists.
- Fourier Cosine Series:
- Let g(t) be an even function of t, then

• 
$$b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) \sin(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt = 0$$

• 
$$a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) \cos(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0/2} g(t) \cos(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt$$

- The FS becomes a Fourier cosine series  $g(t) \sim a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos n\omega_0 t$
- Fourier Sine Series:
- Let g(t) be an odd function of t, then

• 
$$a_0 = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) dt = 0$$
,  $a_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) \cos(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt = 0$   
•  $b_n = \frac{2}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} g(t) \sin(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt = \frac{4}{T_0} \int_{0}^{T_0/2} g(t) \sin(\frac{2\pi n}{T_0} t) dt$ 

• The FS becomes a Fourier sine series  $g(t) \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin n\omega_0 t$ 

### Complex Form of the Fourier Series

The Fourier series can also be expressed in the complex form:

$$g(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}$$
  
where,  $C_n = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} g(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt.$ 

- Note that  $C_n$  is a complex valued quantity, which can be written as
- $C_n = |C_n|e^{j\theta n}$
- The plot of  $|C_n|$  versus frequency is called the **Discrete Amplitude Spectrum**.
- The plot of  $\theta_n$  versus frequency is called the **Discrete Phase Spectrum**.
- The term at  $f_0$  is referred to as the fundamental frequency. The term at  $2f_0$  is referred to as the second order harmonic, the term at  $3f_0$  is referred to as the third order harmonic and so on.

#### Parseval's Power Theorem

• The average power of a periodic signal g(t) is given by:

$$P_{av} = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} |g(t)|^2 dt = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |C_n|^2 = |C_0|^2 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |C_n|^2$$
$$= |a_0|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (|a_n|^2 + |b_n|^2)$$

• **Proof:** 
$$g(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}$$
, where,  $C_n = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} g(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt$ .

• 
$$|g(t)|^2 = g(t)g^*(t) = \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n e^{jn\omega_0 t}\right) \left(\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} C_m^* e^{-jm\omega_0 t}\right)$$

• 
$$\frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} |g(t)|^2 dt = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n C_m^* e^{j(n-m)\omega_0 t} dt$$

• Orthogonality: 
$$\int_{0}^{T_{0}} e^{j(n-m)\omega_{0}t} dt = \begin{cases} T_{0} & , n = m \\ 0 & n \neq m \end{cases}$$

• 
$$\frac{1}{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} |g(t)|^2 dt = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |C_n|^2 = |C_0|^2 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |C_n|^2$$

#### Power Spectral Density

- The plot of  $|C_n|^2$  versus frequency is called the *power spectral density* (PSD).
- It displays the power content of each frequency (spectral) component of a signal.
- For a periodic signal, the PSD consists of discrete terms at multiples of the fundamental frequency.
- The next example demonstrate these properties

#### Power Spectral Density

- **Example:** Find the power spectral density of the g(t) shown in the figure.
- Here, we need to find the complex Fourier series expansion, where the period  $T_0 = 2\tau$

