

4. Any periodic function, $f(t) = f(t + T)$ can also be Fourier expanded as

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{i\omega n t} \quad (1)$$

with $\omega = 2\pi/T$, and n sums over all integers.

This is very similar to our usual expansion in terms of sin's and cos's, but combines them more elegantly using complex exponentials, and is the more common form used by physicists. Let's work out the details!

(a) Show that $\frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} e^{i(m-n)t\omega} dt = 0$ if $m \neq n$ and $\frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} e^{i(m-n)t\omega} dt = 1$ if $m = n$ (both are integers)

(b) Use (a) to show that $c_m = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} e^{-imt\omega} f(t) dt$, where m is just a dummy index.

Hint! Look at the use of Fourier's trick from my lecture (see concept test slides), or online lecture notes on p. 11a and 11b, or Boas Ch 7.7, and figure out how to apply it here.

When expanding in complex exponentials like this, we win by having just one simple formula for the c_n 's, and integrals of exponentials are easier! (The price we pay is having to sum over negative n 's)

Another Extra Credit opportunity: Use Euler's formula $e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$ to show that

$$c_n = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(a_n - ib_n) & n > 0 \\ a_0 & n = 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}(a_{-n} + ib_{-n}) & n < 0 \end{cases}$$

Where the a 's and b 's are the usual Fourier coefficients we've defined in class and Taylor.

5. You've gotten a summer job interning as an audio engineer. Audio software produces periodic tones by summing pure frequencies (each with its own amplitude) - it's just summing up a Fourier series! Your boss has asked you to generate a tone with the following properties: It should have a fundamental frequency of 440 Hz (Middle A). On each cycle (i.e. 1/440th of a second), instead of being a pure cos or sin wave, your wave should start with a given amplitude A , ramp down *linearly* (rather than sinusoidally) to $-A$ in half a period, then ramp back up linearly back to $+A$, and repeat this pattern indefinitely.

- Sketch the function you are trying to build (over a couple of periods). Clearly label your horizontal axis. Do you expect any of the terms (cosines or sines?) in the Fourier series to vanish? Briefly, why?
 - Compute the Fourier series for your waveform (which means coming up with a formula for the amplitude of each Fourier term.)
 - To check your solution, use a computer to plot the sum of the first 3 non-zero terms in your series (over a range of several periods.) It should resemble the sketch that you drew in part a. If you're using Mathematica, there is a function called "Play", try it out! (Set $A=1$) Compare it to `Play[Cos[440 * 2 Pi t], t,0,1]` and describe in words how your tone is similar, and how it differs, from the pure tone.
-