

# 6.003: Signals and Systems

## Fourier Representations

*March 30, 2010*

## Mid-term Examination #2

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Wednesday, April 7, 7:30-9:30pm, 34-101.

No recitations on the day of the exam.

Coverage:     Lectures 1–15  
                  Recitations 1–15  
                  Homeworks 1–8

Homework 8 will not be collected or graded. Solutions will be posted.

Closed book: 2 pages of notes ( $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$  inches; front and back).

Designed as 1-hour exam; two hours to complete.

Review sessions during open office hours.

Conflict? Contact [freeman@mit.edu](mailto:freeman@mit.edu) before Friday, April 2, 5pm.

# Fourier Representations

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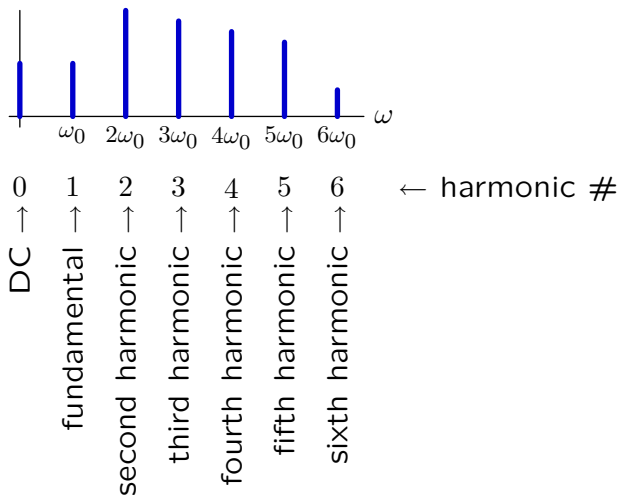
Fourier series represent **signals** in terms of **sinusoids**.

→ leads to a new representation for **systems** as **filters**.

# Fourier Series

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Representing signals by their harmonic components.

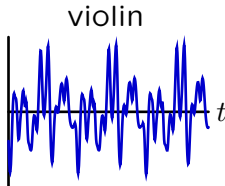
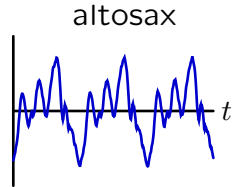
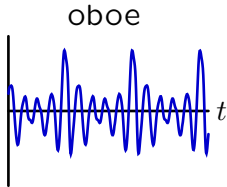
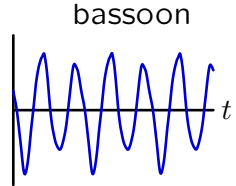
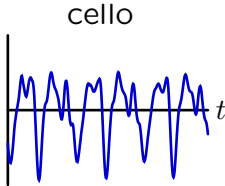
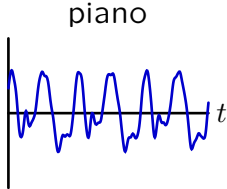



# Musical Instruments

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Harmonic content is natural way to describe some kinds of signals.

Ex: musical instruments (<http://theremin.music.uiowa.edu/MIS>)



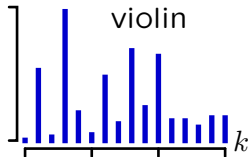
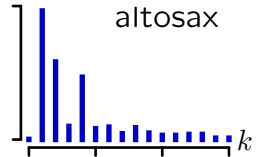
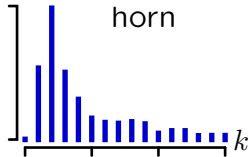
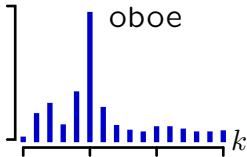
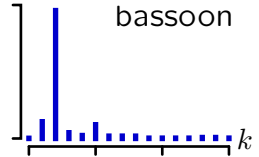
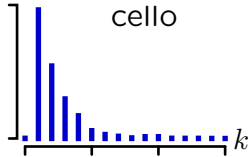
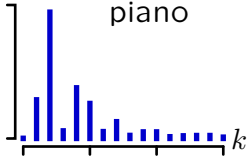
  
 $\frac{1}{252}$  seconds

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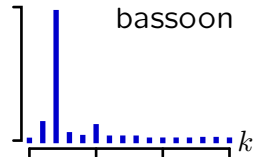
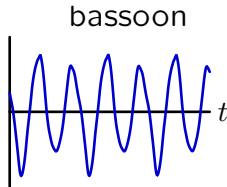
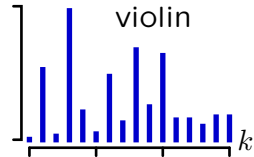
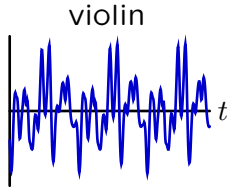
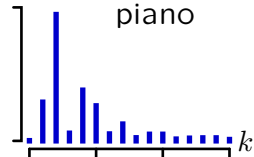
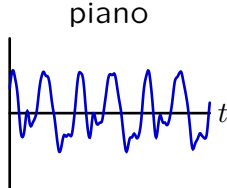


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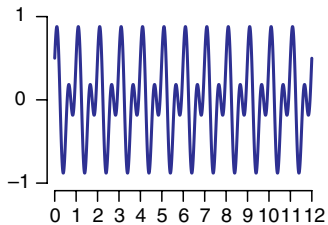
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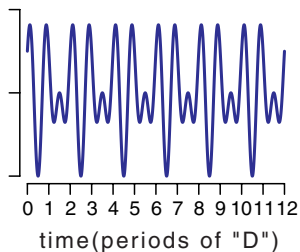
# Harmonics

Harmonic structure determines consonance and dissonance.

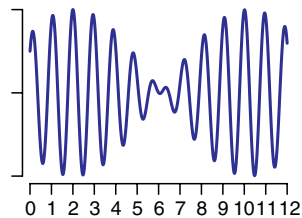
octave ( $D+D'$ )



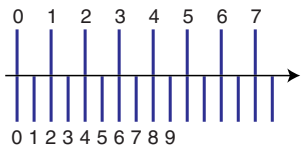
fifth ( $D+A$ )



$D+E_b$

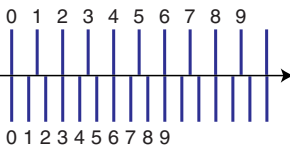


$D'$



$D$

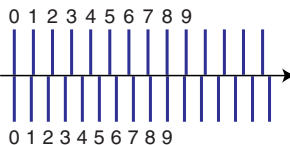
$A$



$D$

harmonics

$E_b$

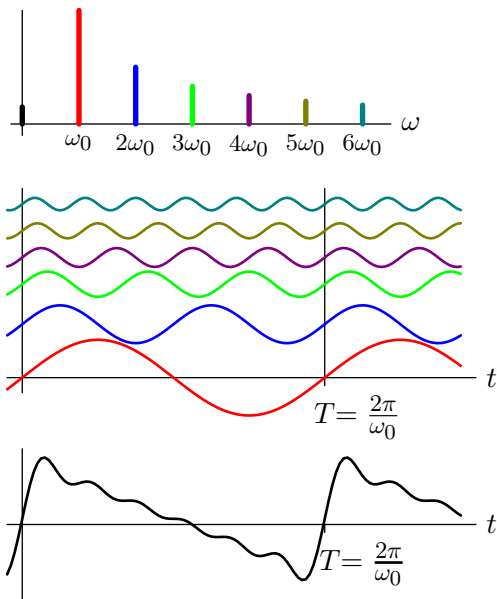


$D$



# Harmonic Representations

What signals can be represented by sums of harmonic components?

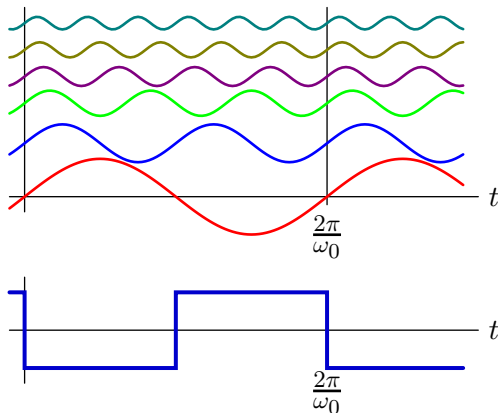


Only periodic signals: all harmonics of  $\omega_0$  are periodic in  $T = 2\pi/\omega_0$ .

## Harmonic Representations

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Is it possible to represent ALL periodic signals with harmonics?  
What about discontinuous signals?



Fourier claimed YES — even though all harmonics are continuous!  
Lagrange ridiculed the idea that a discontinuous signal could be written as a sum of continuous signals.

We will assume the answer is YES and see if the answer makes sense.

## Separating harmonic components

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Underlying properties.

1. Multiplying two harmonics produces a new harmonic with the same fundamental frequency:

$$e^{jk\omega_0 t} \times e^{jl\omega_0 t} = e^{j(k+l)\omega_0 t} .$$

2. The integral of a harmonic over any time interval with length equal to a period  $T$  is zero unless the harmonic is at DC:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} e^{jk\omega_0 t} dt &\equiv \int_T e^{jk\omega_0 t} dt = \begin{cases} 0, & k \neq 0 \\ T, & k = 0 \end{cases} \\ &= T\delta[k] \end{aligned}$$

## Separating harmonic components

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Assume that  $x(t)$  is periodic in  $T$  and is composed of a weighted sum of harmonics of  $\omega_0 = 2\pi/T$ .

$$x(t) = x(t + T) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{j\omega_0 kt}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_T x(t) e^{-jl\omega_0 t} dt &= \int_T \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{j\omega_0 kt} e^{-j\omega_0 lt} dt \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k \int_T e^{j\omega_0(k-l)t} dt \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k T \delta[k - l] = T a_l \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$a_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_T x(t) e^{-j\omega_0 kt} dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_T x(t) e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{T} kt} dt$$

## Fourier Series

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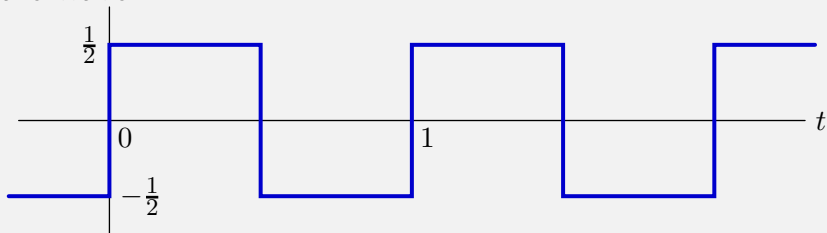
Determining harmonic components of a periodic signal.

$$a_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_T x(t) e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt} dt \quad (\text{"analysis" equation})$$

$$x(t) = x(t + T) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt} \quad (\text{"synthesis" equation})$$

## Check Yourself

Let  $a_k$  represent the Fourier series coefficients of the following square wave.



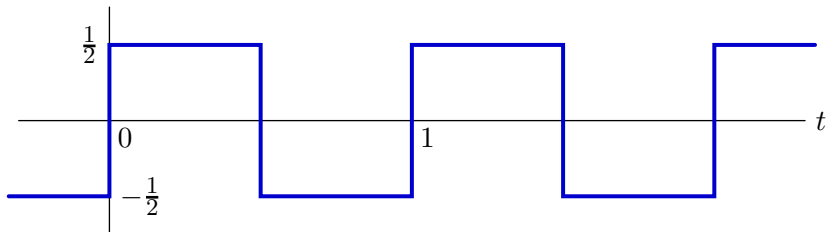
How many of the following statements are true?

1.  $a_k = 0$  if  $k$  is even
2.  $a_k$  is real-valued
3.  $|a_k|$  decreases with  $k^2$
4. there are an infinite number of non-zero  $a_k$
5. all of the above

## Check Yourself

---

Let  $a_k$  represent the Fourier series coefficients of the following square wave.



$$\begin{aligned} a_k &= \int_T x(t) e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt} dt = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^0 e^{-j2\pi kt} dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-j2\pi kt} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{j4\pi k} \left( 2 - e^{j\pi k} - e^{-j\pi k} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{j\pi k} ; & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \\ 0 ; & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

## Check Yourself

---

Let  $a_k$  represent the Fourier series coefficients of the following square wave.

$$a_k = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{j\pi k} & ; \quad \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & ; \quad \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

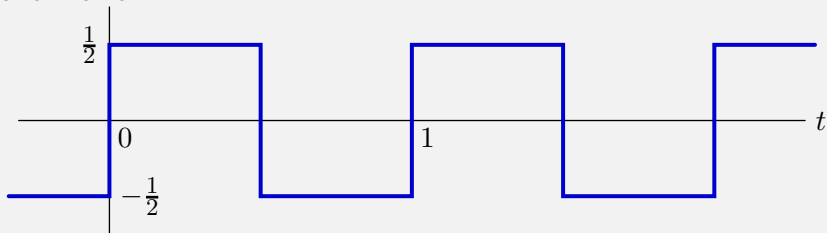
How many of the following statements are true?

1.  $a_k = 0$  if  $k$  is even ✓
2.  $a_k$  is real-valued ✗
3.  $|a_k|$  decreases with  $k^2$  ✗
4. there are an infinite number of non-zero  $a_k$  ✓
5. all of the above ✗



## Check Yourself

Let  $a_k$  represent the Fourier series coefficients of the following square wave.



How many of the following statements are true? 2

1.  $a_k = 0$  if  $k$  is even ✓
2.  $a_k$  is real-valued ✗
3.  $|a_k|$  decreases with  $k^2$  ✗
4. there are an infinite number of non-zero  $a_k$  ✓
5. all of the above ✗

## Fourier Series Properties

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If a signal is differentiated in time, its Fourier coefficients are multiplied by  $j\frac{2\pi}{T}k$ .

Proof: Let

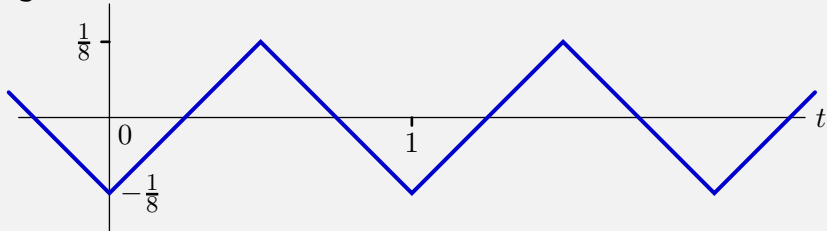
$$x(t) = x(t + T) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt}$$

then

$$\dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}(t + T) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \left( j\frac{2\pi}{T}k a_k \right) e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt}$$

## Check Yourself

Let  $b_k$  represent the Fourier series coefficients of the following triangle wave.



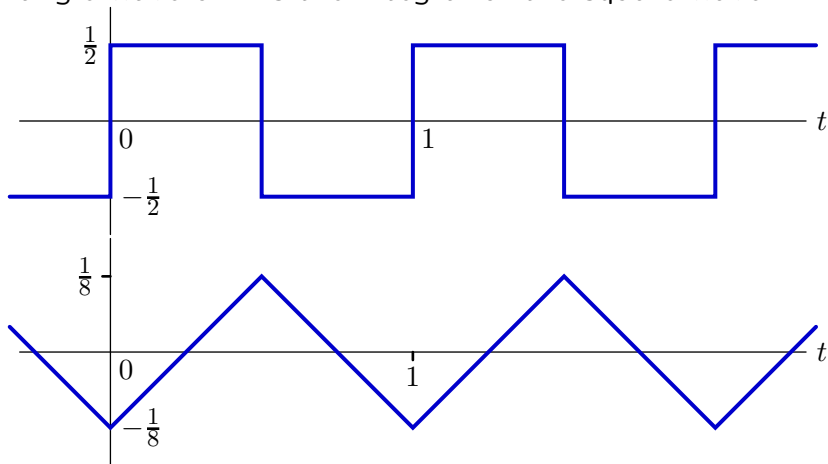
How many of the following statements are true?

1.  $b_k = 0$  if  $k$  is even
2.  $b_k$  is real-valued
3.  $|b_k|$  decreases with  $k^2$
4. there are an infinite number of non-zero  $b_k$
5. all of the above

## Check Yourself

---

The triangle waveform is the integral of the square wave.



Therefore the Fourier coefficients of the triangle waveform are  $\frac{1}{j2\pi k}$  times those of the square wave.

$$b_k = \frac{1}{jk\pi} \times \frac{1}{j2\pi k} = \frac{-1}{2k^2\pi^2} ; k \text{ odd}$$

## Check Yourself

---

Let  $b_k$  represent the Fourier series coefficients of the following triangle wave.

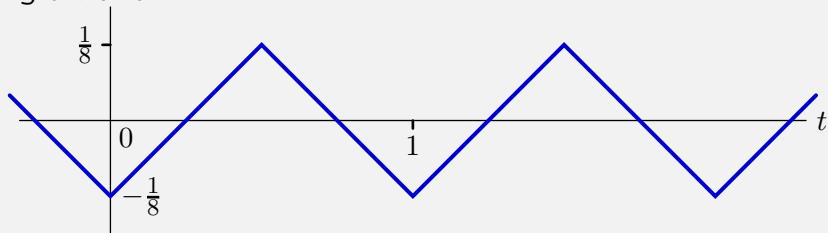
$$b_k = \frac{-1}{2k^2\pi^2} ; k \text{ odd}$$

How many of the following statements are true?

1.  $b_k = 0$  if  $k$  is even ✓
2.  $b_k$  is real-valued ✓
3.  $|b_k|$  decreases with  $k^2$  ✓
4. there are an infinite number of non-zero  $b_k$  ✓
5. all of the above ✓

## Check Yourself

Let  $b_k$  represent the Fourier series coefficients of the following triangle wave.



How many of the following statements are true? **5**

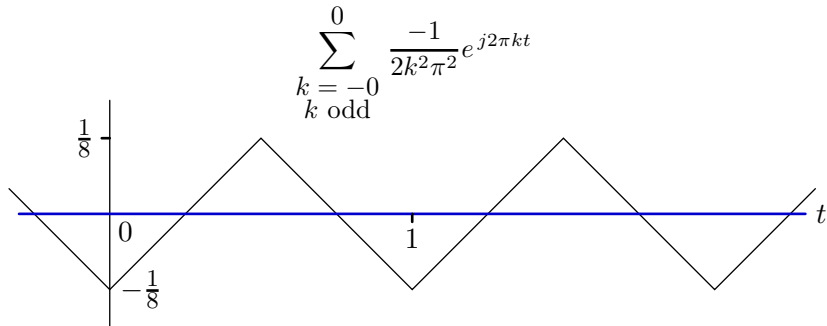
1.  $b_k = 0$  if  $k$  is even ✓
2.  $b_k$  is real-valued ✓
3.  $|b_k|$  decreases with  $k^2$  ✓
4. there are an infinite number of non-zero  $b_k$  ✓
5. all of the above ✓

## Fourier Series

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One can visualize convergence of the Fourier Series by incrementally adding terms.

Example: triangle waveform

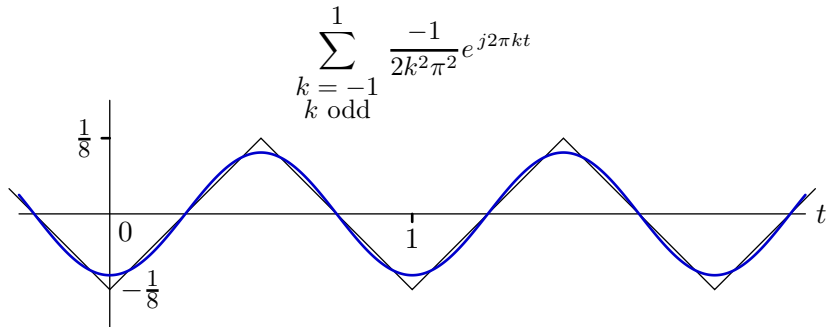


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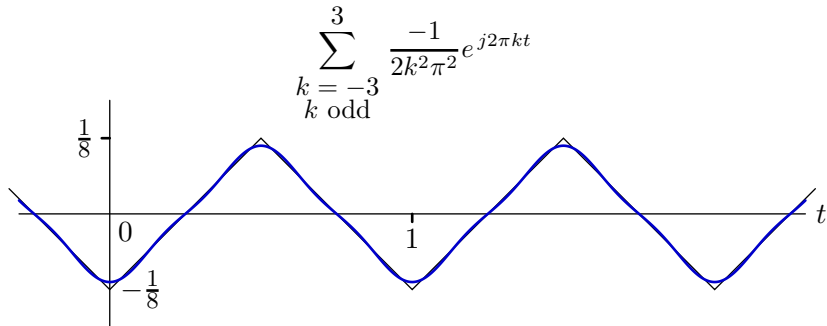


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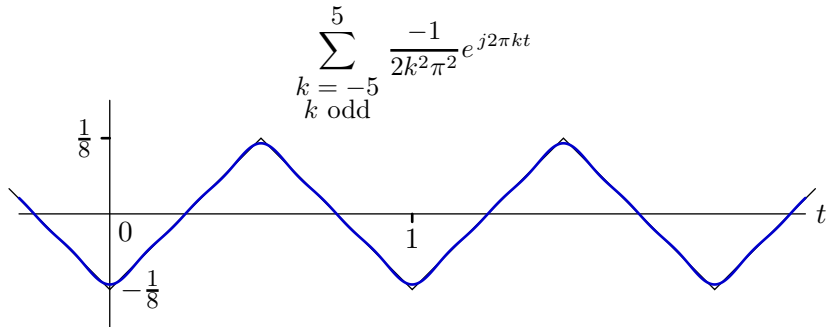


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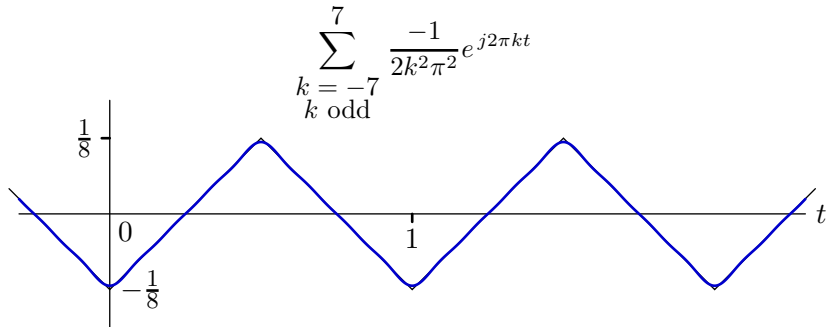


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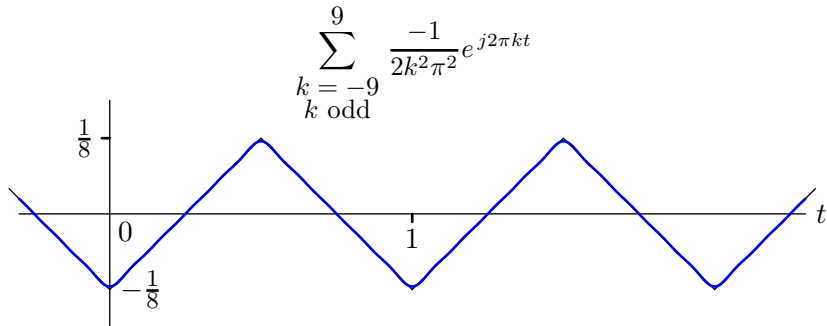


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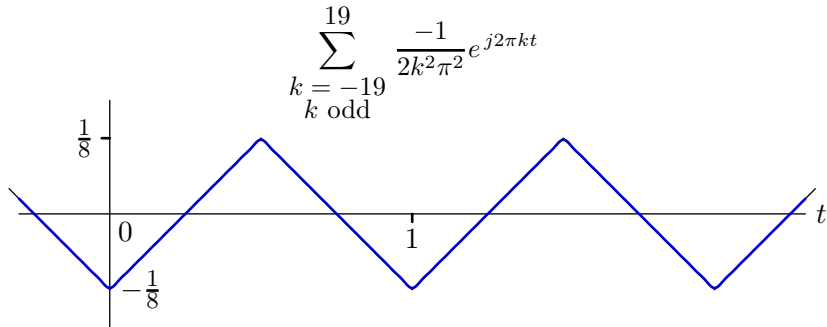


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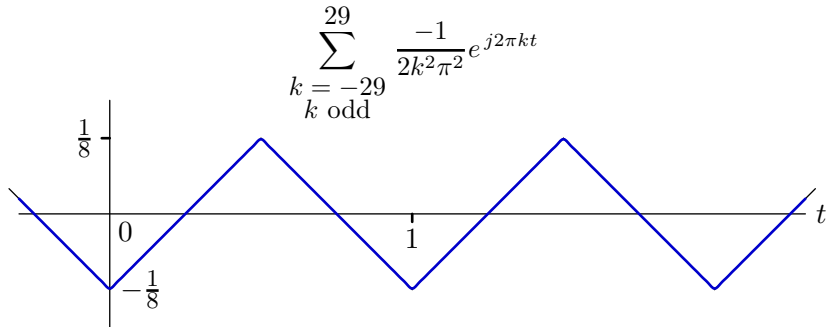


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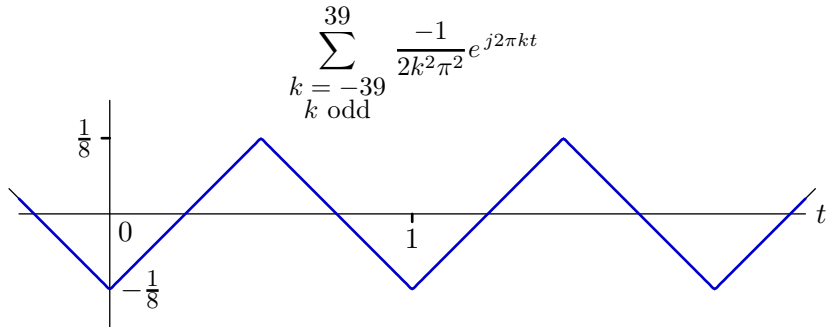


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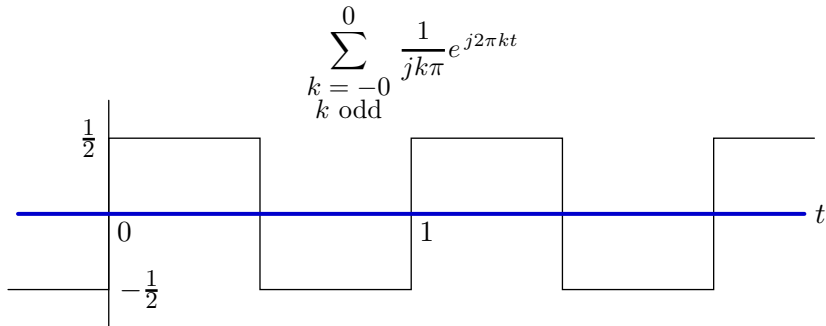
Fourier series representations of functions with discontinuous slopes converge toward functions with discontinuous slopes.

## Fourier Series

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Example: square wave



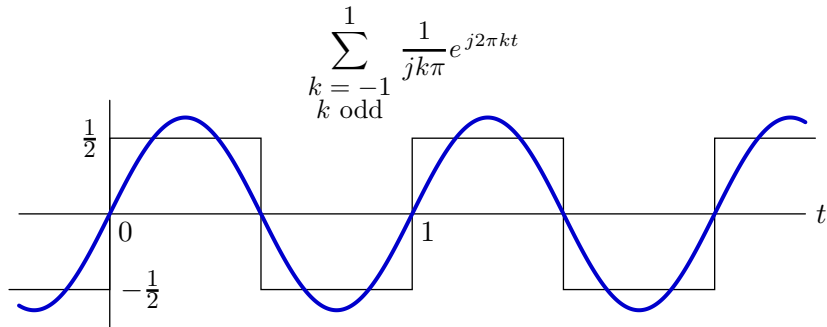


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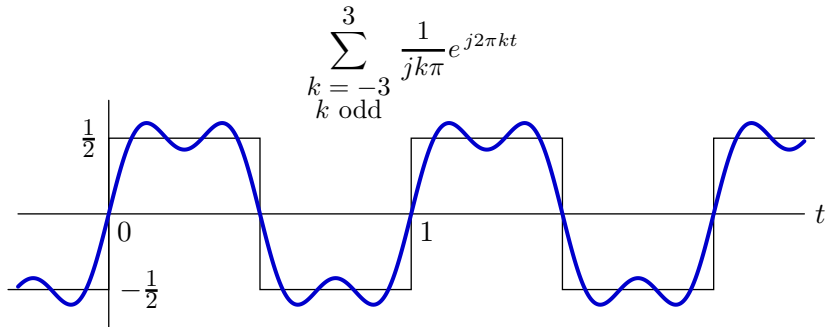


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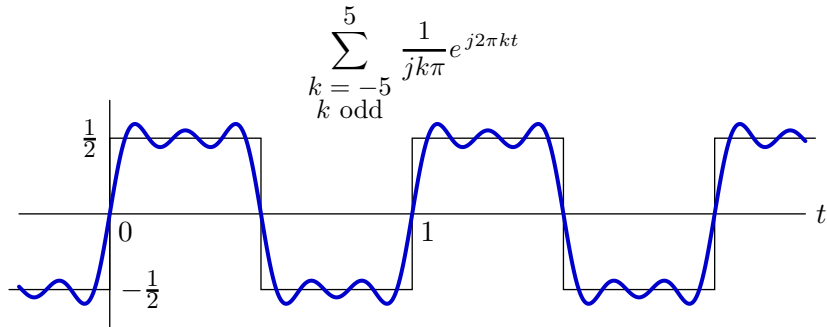


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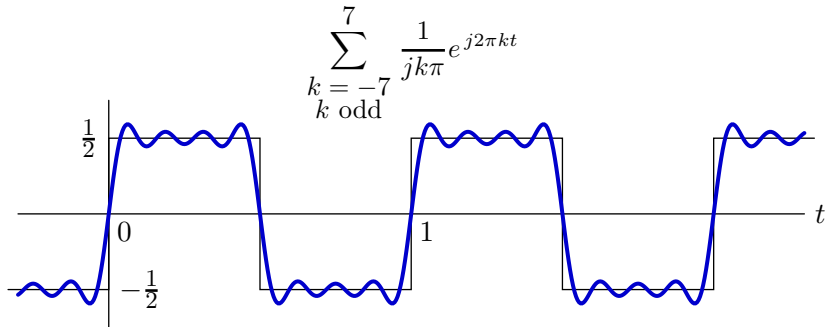


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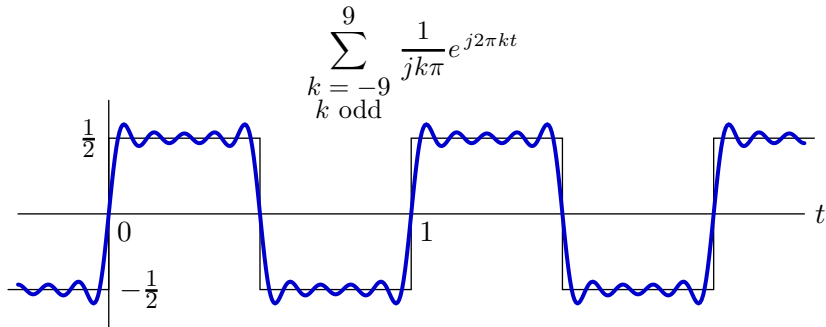


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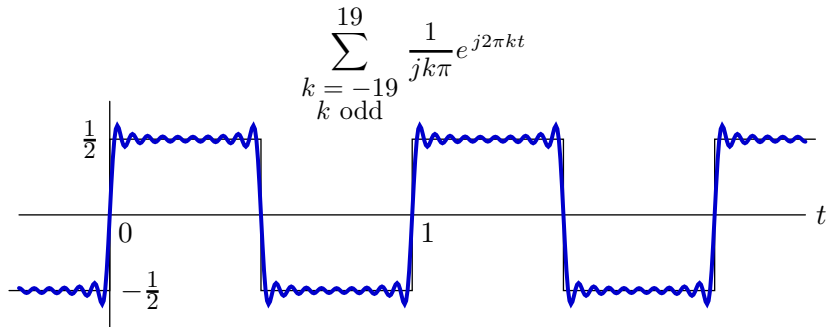


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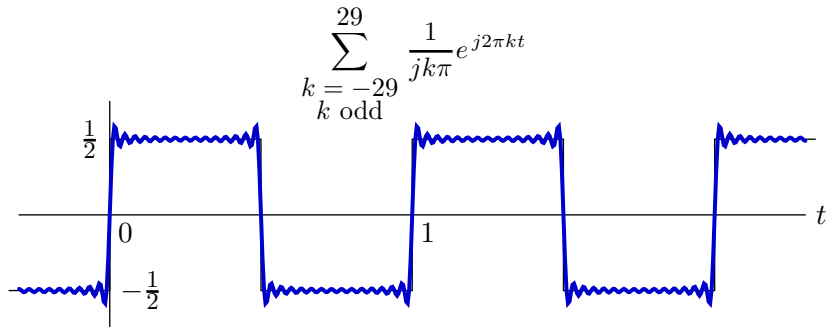


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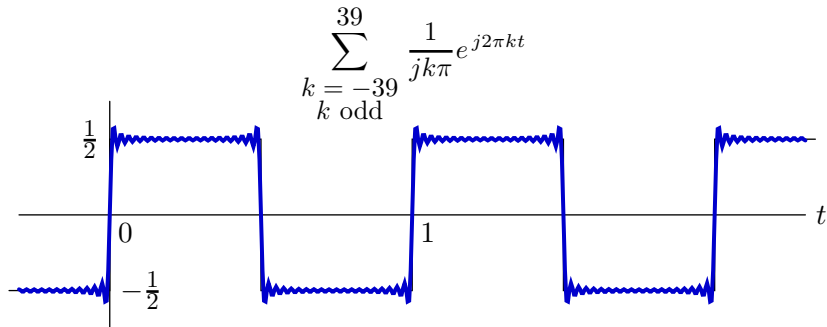


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Example: square wave

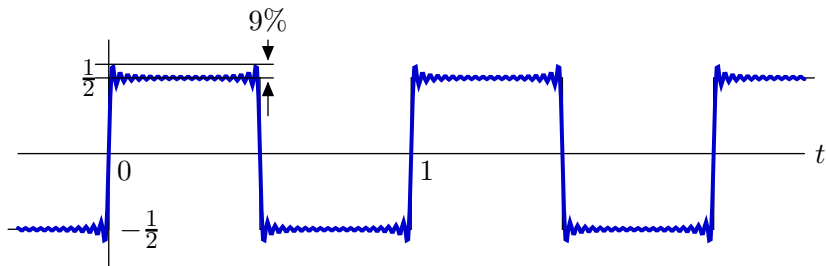




## Fourier Series

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Partial sums of Fourier series of discontinuous functions “ring” near discontinuities: Gibb’s phenomenon.



This ringing results because the magnitude of the Fourier coefficients is only decreasing as  $\frac{1}{k}$  (while they decreased as  $\frac{1}{k^2}$  for the triangle).

You can decrease (and even eliminate the ringing) by decreasing the magnitudes of the Fourier coefficients at higher frequencies.

## Fourier Series: Summary

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Fourier series represent periodic signals as sums of sinusoids.

- valid for an extremely large class of periodic signals
- valid even for discontinuous signals such as square wave

However, convergence as # harmonics increases can be complicated.

## Filtering

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The output of an LTI system is a “filtered” version of the input.

Input: Fourier series  $\rightarrow$  sum of complex exponentials.

$$x(t) = x(t + T) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt}$$

Complex exponentials: eigenfunctions of LTI systems.

$$e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt} \rightarrow H(j\frac{2\pi}{T}k)e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt}$$

Output: same eigenfunctions, amplitudes/phases set by system.

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt} \rightarrow y(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k H(j\frac{2\pi}{T}k) e^{j\frac{2\pi}{T}kt}$$

## Filtering

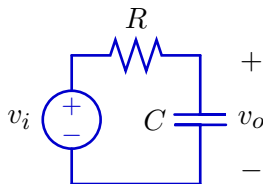
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Notion of a filter.

LTI systems

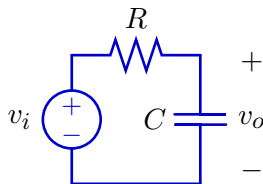
- cannot create new frequencies.
- can scale magnitudes and shift phases of existing components.

Example: Low-Pass Filtering with an RC circuit



## Lowpass Filter

Calculate the frequency response of an RC circuit.



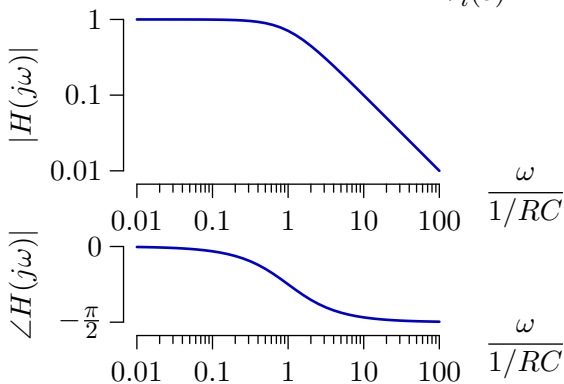
$$\text{KVL: } v_i(t) = Ri(t) + v_o(t)$$

$$\text{C: } i(t) = C\dot{v}_o(t)$$

$$\text{Solving: } v_i(t) = RC\dot{v}_o(t) + v_o(t)$$

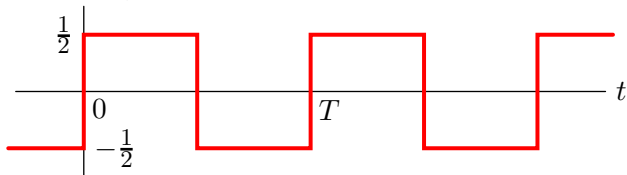
$$V_i(s) = (1 + sRC)V_o(s)$$

$$H(s) = \frac{V_o(s)}{V_i(s)} = \frac{1}{1 + sRC}$$

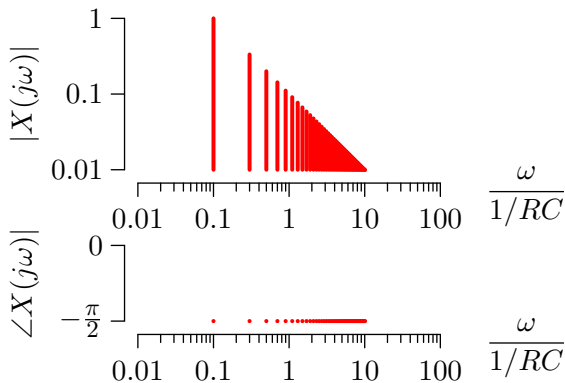


## Lowpass Filtering

Let the input be a square wave.

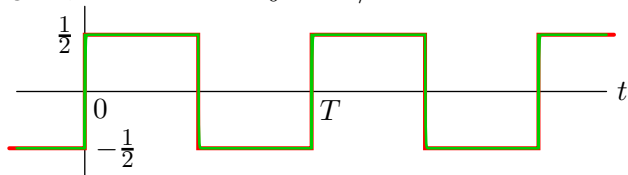


$$x(t) = \sum_{k \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{j\pi k} e^{j\omega_0 k t} ; \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$

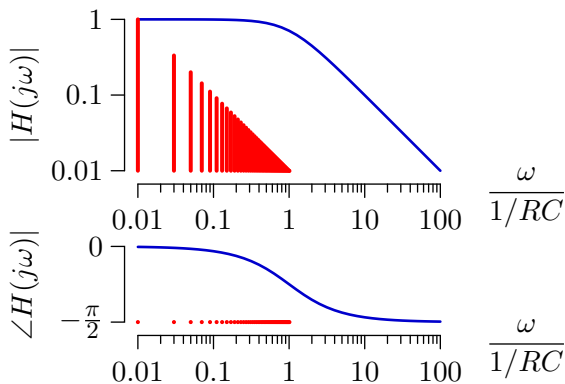


## Lowpass Filtering

Low frequency square wave:  $\omega_0 \ll 1/RC$ .

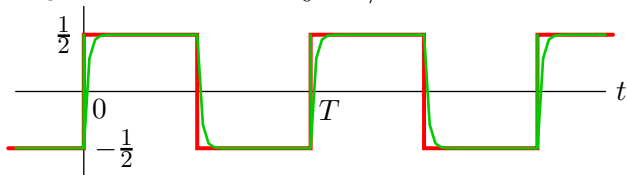


$$x(t) = \sum_{k \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{j\pi k} e^{j\omega_0 k t} ; \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$

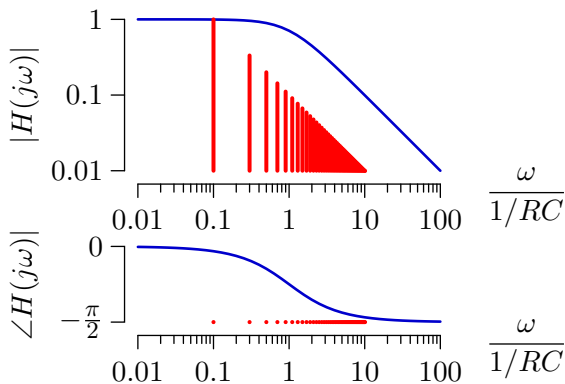


## Lowpass Filtering

Higher frequency square wave:  $\omega_0 < 1/RC$ .



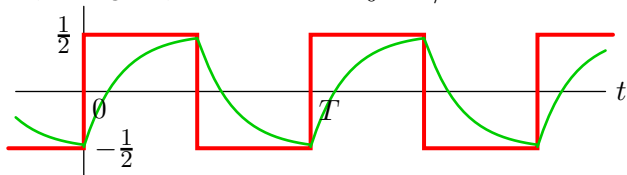
$$x(t) = \sum_{k \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{j\pi k} e^{j\omega_0 k t} ; \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$



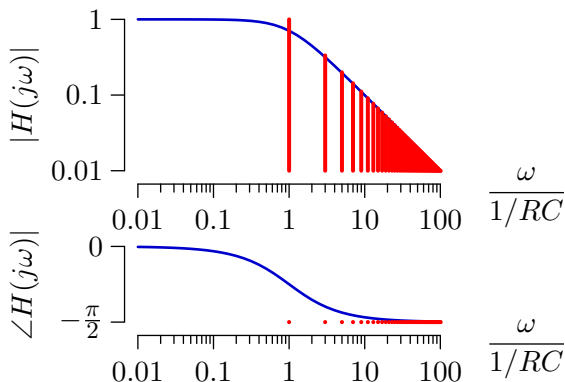


## Lowpass Filtering

Still higher frequency square wave:  $\omega_0 = 1/RC$ .

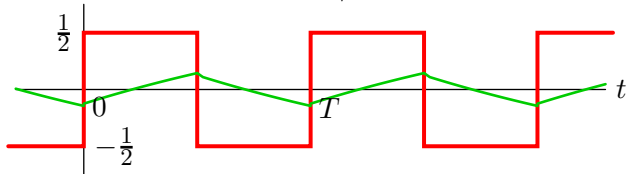


$$x(t) = \sum_{k \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{j\pi k} e^{j\omega_0 k t} ; \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$

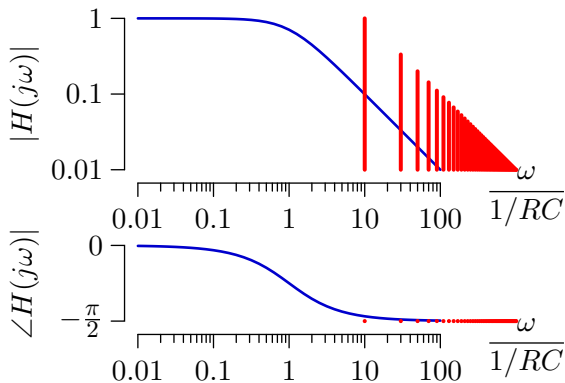


# Lowpass Filtering

High frequency square wave:  $\omega_0 > 1/RC$ .



$$x(t) = \sum_{k \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{j\pi k} e^{j\omega_0 k t} ; \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$



## Fourier Series: Summary

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Fourier series represent signals by their frequency content.

Representing a signal by its frequency content is useful for many signals, e.g., music.

Fourier series motivate a new representation of a system as a filter.