Frequency Division Multiplexing

To engineer the sharing of a channel through frequency division multiplexing we’ll need a new set of tools that will let us understand the behavior of signals and systems in the frequency domain. Plan:

– This week
  • Analyze the frequency content of signals using the discrete-time Fourier series
  • Determine what happens when we band-limit a signal
  • Characterize LTI systems by their frequency response
  • Introduce filters: LTI systems that eliminate a region of frequencies from a signal

– Next week
  • Using modulation to position band-limited signals in different regions of the frequency spectrum
  • Receiving a particular signal from a shared spectrum

Sinusoids and LTI Systems

Frequency division multiplexing depends on an interesting property of LTI channels:

if the channel input \( x[n] \) is a sinusoid of a given amplitude, frequency and phase, the response will be a sinusoid at the same frequency, although the amplitude and phase may be altered. As we’ll see, the change in amplitude and phase may depend on the frequency of the input.

The same property holds when the inputs are complex exponentials, which are closely related to sines and cosines (and, perhaps surprisingly, are much easier to analyze!).

Periodic Sequences

A sequence \( x[n] \) is said to be periodic with a period of \( N \) samples (“periodic with period \( N \)”)

\[
x[n] = x[n + N]
\]

A sequence that is periodic with period \( N \) is also periodic with period \( 2N, 3N, \ldots, \) and so on.

A sinusoidal sequence that is periodic with period \( N \) can only have one of a finite number of frequencies: all the harmonics of the fundamental frequency \( 2\pi/N \) radians/sample, i.e., frequencies of the form \( k \cdot (2\pi/N) \) for some integer \( k \).
Frequencies \( k \cdot (2\pi/N) \) when \( k \geq N \)

Frequency \( k \cdot (2\pi/N) \) yields the same sequence as \((k \mod N) \cdot (2\pi/N)\)

Unique sequences: \( k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, N-1 \)

Highest frequency: \((N-1) \cdot (2\pi/N) < 2\pi\)

Negative Frequencies

Sequences of frequency \( k \cdot (2\pi/N) \), i.e., frequencies between 0 and \(2\pi\), are identical to sequences of frequency \(-(N-k) \cdot (2\pi/N)\), i.e., between \(-2\pi\) and 0.

In 6.02, our convention will be to specify frequencies in the range \(-\pi\) and \(\pi\), corresponding to \(k\)'s in the range \(-(N/2)\) to \((N/2)\).

Complex Exponentials

A complex exponential is a complex-valued function of a single argument – an angle measured in radians. Euler’s formula shows the relation between complex exponentials and our usual trig functions:

\[
e^{-j\varphi} = \cos(\varphi) + j\sin(\varphi)
\]

Sine and Cosine and \( e^{j\varphi} \)

\[
\cos(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} e^{j\varphi} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-j\varphi}
\]

\[
\sin(\varphi) = \frac{1}{2j} e^{j\varphi} - \frac{1}{2j} e^{-j\varphi}
\]
Useful Properties of $e^{j\varphi}$

When $\varphi = 0$:
$$e^{j0} = 1$$

When $\varphi = \pm \pi$:
$$e^{j\pi} = e^{-j\pi} = -1$$
$$e^{j\pi n} = e^{-j\pi n} = (-1)^n$$

Summing samples over one period:
$$\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N} n} = \begin{cases} N & k = 0, \pm N, \pm 2N, \ldots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

n ranges over any N consecutive integers, e.g., $n = 0, 1, ..., N-1$

Discrete-time Fourier Series

If $x[n]$ is periodic with period $N$, it can be expressed as the sum of scaled periodic complex exponentials:

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N} n}$$

k ranges over any N consecutive integers. Two common choices:
- k starts at 0 ($0 \leq \text{freq} \leq 2\pi$)
- k starts at $-N/2$ ($-\pi \leq \text{freq} \leq \pi$)

The spectral coefficients $a_k$ for each of the discrete frequencies are, in general, complex, changing both the amplitude and phase of the associated complex exponential. If $x[n]$ is real, $a_{-k} = a_k^*$.

**Solving for the $a_k$**

Start with:
$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N} n}$$

Multiply both sides by $e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N} m n}$ and sum over N terms:
$$\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N} n} = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N} n} e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N} n}$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N} (k-n)} n$$
$$= a_k N$$

From slide 9: N if $k=r$, 0 otherwise

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N} n}$$

Discrete-time Fourier Series Pair

**Synthesis equation**

$$x[n] = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} a_k e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N} n}$$

**Analysis equation**

$$a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x[n] e^{-j\frac{2\pi}{N} n}$$

If we have N samples of a periodic waveform of period N, we can find the waveform’s spectral coefficients using the analysis equation.

If we have the spectral coefficients, we can reconstruct the original time-domain waveform using the synthesis equation.
\[ x[n] = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} n\right) \]

\[ a_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} n\right)e^{-j\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)k} \]

\[ = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[ e^{j\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)k} + e^{-j\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)k} \right] \]

\[ = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{j\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)k} + \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{-j\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)k} \]

\[ = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\frac{1}{2} & k = \pm r \\
0 & \text{otherwise}
\end{array} \right. \]

This time let’s do it “by inspection”.

First rewrite \( x[n] \) (see slide #8): \[ x[n] = \frac{1}{2} e^{j\frac{2\pi}{N} n} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-j\left(-\frac{2\pi}{N}\right) n} \]

Now \( x[n] \) is a sum of complex exponentials and we can determine the \( a_k \) directly from the equation:

\[ a_r = \frac{1}{2j} = -\frac{j}{2} \]

\[ a_{-r} = -\frac{1}{2j} = \frac{j}{2} \]

\[ a_k = 0 \quad \text{otherwise} \]

\[ x[n] = \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{N} n\right) \]

Again, by inspection: since the \( \cos \) and \( \sin \) are different frequencies, we can analyze them separately.

\( a_0 = \text{average value} = 1 \)

\( a_{3} = 2(1/2) = 1 \quad \text{[from cos term]} \)

\( a_{5} = -3(j/2) = -1.5j \quad \text{[from sin term]} \)

\( a_{-5} = -3(-j/2) = 1.5j \)

\( a_k = 0 \quad \text{otherwise} \)

**Spectrum of Digital Transmissions**

Transmit @ 7 samples/bit

\[ x[n] \text{ synthesized from } a_k \]
Effect of Band-limiting a Transmission

How Low Can We Go?

7 samples/bit → 14 samples/period → k=(N/14)=(196/14)=14