

# Discrete Fourier Series: Introduction and Basics.

Note: We will change some notation...

$n$  should be a vector index  
(i.e.  $v_n = "n^{th} \text{ element of } \underline{v}"$ )

So we will use  $k$  for Fourier coeff.s

(instead of  $c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) e^{-int} dt$ )  
use  $c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) e^{-ikt} dt$ )

## Discretize Continuous Fourier Series:

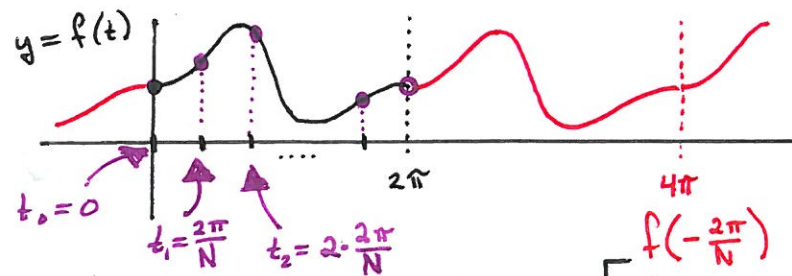
$f(t)$  periodic with period  $2\pi$

$$f(t) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{ikt}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} c_k &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) e^{-ikt} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) e^{-ikt} dt \end{aligned} \right. \text{ since } f(t) \text{ is periodic.}$$

→ To compute  $c_k$  we need to know  $f(t)$  for one period, say  $0 \leq t < 2\pi$

Discretize  $f(t)$  on  $0 \leq t < 2\pi$  to be a length  $N$  vector  $\underline{f}$



function  $f(t)$

→ Vector  $\underline{f} =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} f(0) \\ f(\frac{2\pi}{N}) \\ f(2 \cdot \frac{2\pi}{N}) \\ \vdots \\ f((N-1) \frac{2\pi}{N}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow f_0 \\ \leftarrow f_1 \\ \leftarrow f_2 \\ \\ \leftarrow f_{N-1} \end{matrix}$$

$f(-\frac{2\pi}{N}) = f((N-1)\frac{2\pi}{N})$   
 $f(N \frac{2\pi}{N}) = f(0)$   
 $f((N+1) \frac{2\pi}{N}) = f(\frac{2\pi}{N})$

Note:  $f_n$  is  $f(t)$  at  $t = n \frac{2\pi}{N}$

→ Plug into continuous formulas:

$$f(t) = \sum c_k e^{ikt}$$

$$c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) e^{-ikt} dt$$

$$f_n = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} c_k e^{ik(n \frac{2\pi}{N})}$$

$$c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-ik(n \frac{2\pi}{N})}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} c_k e^{(\frac{2\pi i}{N})kn}$$

$$c_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{(-\frac{2\pi i}{N})kn}$$

Discrete Fourier — so far:

$\underline{f}$  is a vector of length  $N$

↳ Fourier coefficients:

$$c_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{(-\frac{2\pi i}{N}) \cdot kn}$$

$\mathcal{F}\{\underline{f}\} = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{N-1}) = \underline{c}$   
is the "Discrete Fourier Transform"

↳ Recover  $\underline{f}$  from coefficients

$$f_n = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} c_k e^{(\frac{2\pi i}{N}) \cdot nk}$$

$\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{\underline{c}\} = \underline{f}$   
is the "Inverse Fourier Transform"

Remark: In "time domain" (i.e.  $f(t)$ )  
we will use vector subscript  $\underline{n} \rightsquigarrow f_n$

In "frequency domain" (i.e. Fourier coeff)  
we will use vector subscript  $\underline{k} \rightsquigarrow c_k$

→ This is like using "t" for functions  $\underline{f}(t)$   
and "s" for Laplace transforms  $\underline{\mathcal{L}}\{f(t)\}$

Do not fear the  $e^{(\frac{2\pi i}{N})}$

→ It is just a "Root of Unity"

Write  $\omega_N$  ("Omega-N") for  $e^{(\frac{2\pi i}{N})}$

$\omega_N = e^{(\frac{2\pi i}{N})}$  is an  $N^{\text{th}}$  root of unity

— meaning:  $(\omega_N)^N = (e^{\frac{2\pi i}{N}})^N = e^{2\pi i} = 1$ .

Roots of unity:

$$\omega_N = e^{(\frac{2\pi i}{N})} = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}\right)$$

Basic examples:

$$\omega_1 = \cos(2\pi) + i \sin(2\pi) = 1$$

$$\omega_2 = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{2}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{2}\right) = -1$$

$$\omega_4 = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{4}\right) = i$$

$$\omega_8 = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{8}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{8}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$\omega_3 = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

$$\omega_6 = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{6}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

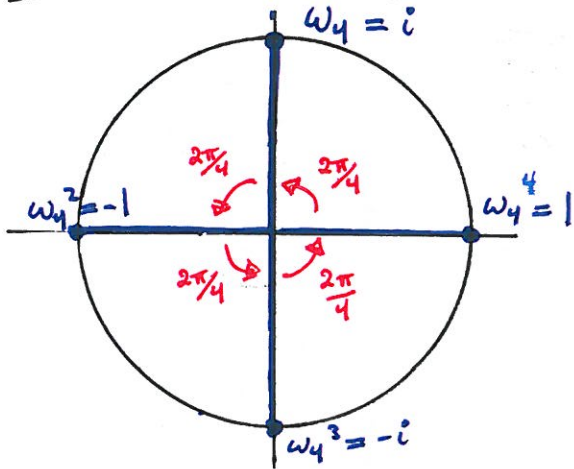
$$\omega_{12} = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{12}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{12}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3} + i}{2}$$



Easy way to understand  $\omega_N$  and  $\omega_N^k$ :

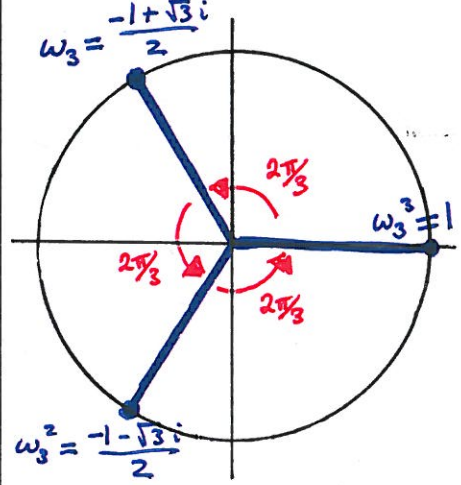
- Consider the circle with radius 1 in  $\mathbb{C}$
- $\omega_N$  is at the point  $\frac{1}{N}$  around the circle
- Powers  $\omega_N^k$  are given by moving around the circle with steps of size  $\omega_N$  (Coordinates are always cos & sin)

EX:  $\omega_4$  and its powers



Divide the circle into 4 pieces.  $\omega_N^0 = 1$ .

EX:  $\omega_3$  and powers



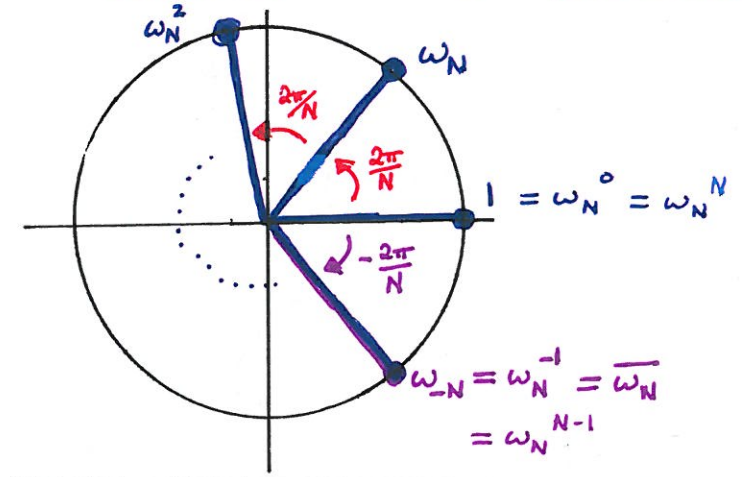
Divide the circle into 3 pieces.

Powers of  $\omega_N$  are modular:

- $\omega_N^N = \omega_N^0 = 1$
- $\omega_N^{N+1} = \omega_N$
- $\omega_N^{N+2} = \omega_N^2$
- $\omega_N^{N-1} = \omega_N^{-1}$
- Also  $\omega_N^{-1} = \overline{\omega_N}$  (c-conjugate)

Note:  $e^{-\frac{2\pi i}{N}}$  =  $\omega_{-N}$  is like  $\omega_N$ :

→ Divide circle into N pieces then go clockwise instead of counter-clockwise.



Discrete Fourier Transform:  $\mathcal{F}\{f\} = \underline{c}$

is given by

$$c_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n (\omega_N^k)^n$$

"Winds  $f$  around the circle clockwise, with steps of size  $\frac{1}{N}$  of circle, moving k steps at a time."

Inverse Fourier Transform:  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{c\} = \underline{f}$

$$f_n = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} c_k (\omega_N^n)^k$$

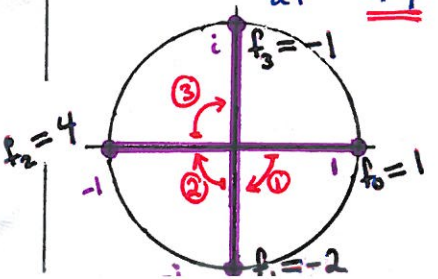
Note: Fourier Transform "winds" the function  $\underline{f}$  clockwise around circle  
 Inverse Fourier "unwinds" the coefficients  $\underline{c}$  counter-clockwise to get back to  $\underline{f}$ .

To save space, in the following examples, we will write our vectors horizontally:  
 $\underline{f} = (f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_{N-1})$

EX: Compute  $\mathcal{F}\{\underline{f}\}$  for  $\underline{f} = (1, -2, 4, -1)$   
 $\begin{matrix} \text{f}_0 & \text{f}_1 & \text{f}_2 & \text{f}_3 \\ \text{length} & = & 4 \end{matrix}$

c<sub>0</sub> [ Note:  $\omega_N^0 = 1$  so  
 $c_0 = \frac{1}{N} \sum f_n (\omega_N^0)^n = \frac{1}{N} \sum f_n \cdot 1$   
 $=$  average value of  $\underline{f}$   
 $c_0 = \frac{1}{4} (1 - 2 + 4 - 1) = \frac{1}{2}$  ]

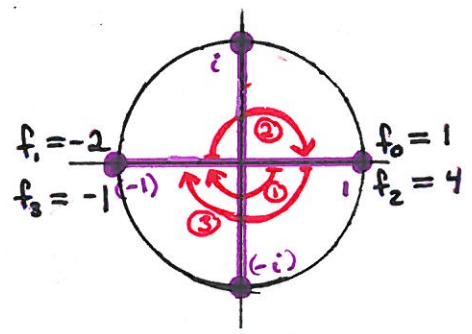
c<sub>1</sub>  $\mathcal{F}_1\{\underline{f}\}$  puts  $\underline{f}$  on a circle clockwise at  $\frac{1}{4}$  turns (because  $\underline{f}$  is length 4)



$$c_1 = \frac{1}{4} (1 \cdot 1 + (-2)(-i) + 4(-1) + (-1)i)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (-3 + i)$$

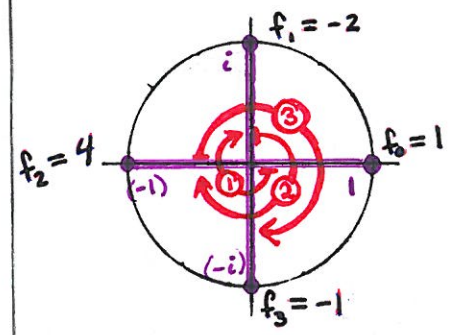
c<sub>2</sub>  $\mathcal{F}_2\{\underline{f}\}$  puts  $\underline{f}$  on the same circle, taking two steps at a time.



$$c_2 = \frac{1}{4} (1 \cdot 1 + (-2)(-1) + 4 \cdot 1 + (-1)(-1))$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (8) = 2$$

c<sub>3</sub>  $\mathcal{F}_3\{\underline{f}\}$  puts  $\underline{f}$  on the same circle, taking three steps at a time.



$$c_3 = \frac{1}{4} (1 \cdot 1 + (-2)i + 4(-1) + (-1)(-i))$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (-3 - i)$$

$$\underline{c} = \left( \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}(-3+i), 2, \frac{1}{4}(-3-i) \right)$$



Important simplifications to note:

- $c_0$  = average value of  $f$

- $c_{N-k} = \bar{c}_k$  ←  $\mathbb{C}$ -conjugate

→ We only need to compute half of the  $c_k$  because the others are conjugate

$$\underline{c} = (c_0, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{N-2}, c_{N-1})$$

$\uparrow$   
Real
 $\parallel$   
 $c_2$ 
 $\parallel$   
 $c_1$

EX: Compute  $\mathcal{F}\{f\}$  for  $f = (2, -1, 1, -2, 3, 0)$

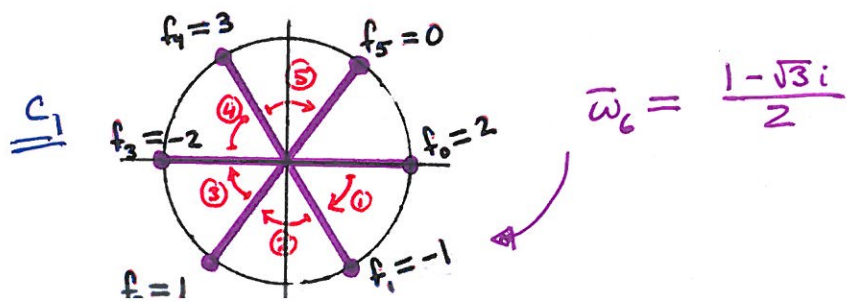
$\parallel$   $\parallel$   $\parallel$   $\parallel$   $\parallel$   $\parallel$   
 $f_0$   $f_1$   $f_2$   $f_3$   $f_4$   $f_5$   
 length = 6

$$\underline{c} = (c_0, c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5)$$

$\uparrow$   
Real
 $\parallel$   
 $c_3$ 
 $\parallel$   
 $c_2$ 
 $\parallel$   
 $c_1$

→ Compute  $c_0, c_1, c_2, c_3$ :

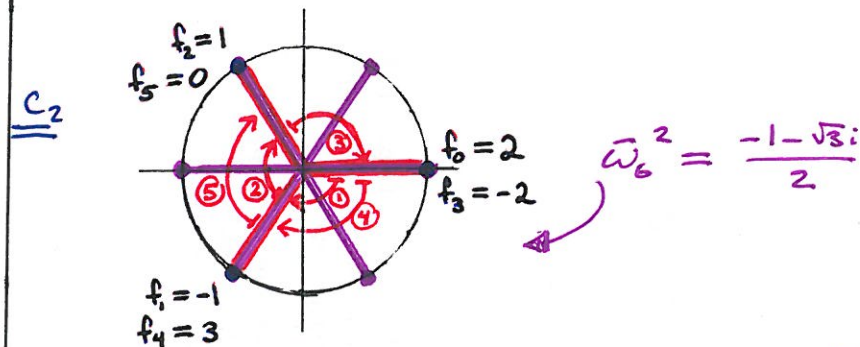
- $\underline{c}_0$  = average value of  $f$   
 $= \frac{1}{6}(2 - 1 + 1 - 2 + 3 + 0) = \frac{1}{2}$



(5)

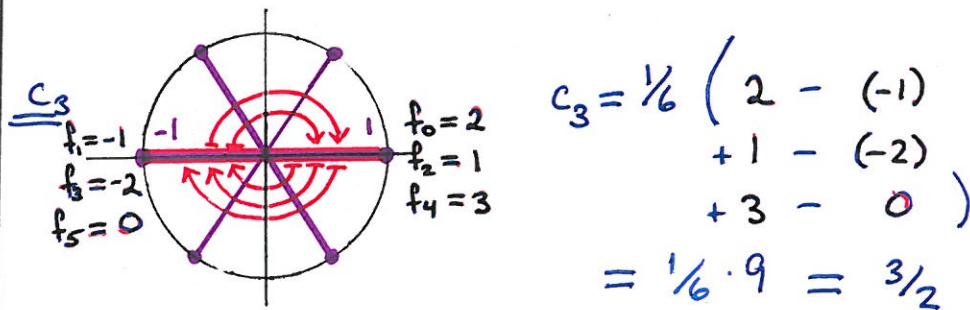
$$c_1 = \frac{1}{6} \left( 2(1) + (-1) \frac{1 - \sqrt{3}i}{2} + (1) \frac{-1 - \sqrt{3}i}{2} + (-2)(-1) + 3 \frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2} + 0 \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{-3 + 3\sqrt{3}i}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{4} (-1 + \sqrt{3}i)$$



$$c_2 = \frac{1}{6} \left( 2 \cdot 1 + (-1) \frac{-1 - \sqrt{3}i}{2} + 1 \cdot \frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2} + (-2) \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot \frac{-1 - \sqrt{3}i}{2} + 0 \cdot \frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}i}{2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left( -\frac{3}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i \right) = \frac{1}{12} (-3 - \sqrt{3}i)$$



$$\underline{c} = \left( \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}(-1 + \sqrt{3}i), \frac{1}{12}(-3 - \sqrt{3}i), \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{12}(-3 + \sqrt{3}i), \frac{1}{4}(-1 - \sqrt{3}i) \right)$$

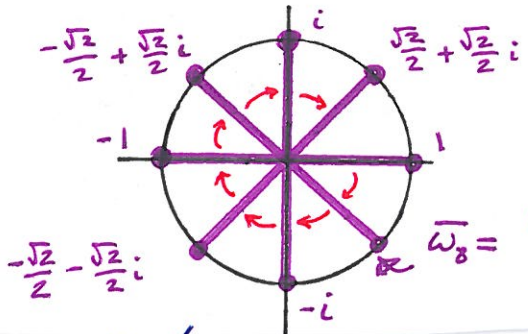
Normally I will not redraw the whole  $\omega_N^n$  circle for each calculation...

EX: Compute all Fourier coefficients of

$$\underline{f} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\begin{matrix} \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel \\ f_0 & f_1 & f_2 & f_3 & f_4 & f_5 & f_6 & f_7 \end{matrix}$

Note: This vector is periodic with freq = 2 (so most  $c_k = 0$ )



length = 8

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{8} (-1 + 0 + 1 + 0 + (-1) + 0 + 1 + 0) = 0$$

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{8} \left( -1 \cdot 1 + 0 \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) + 1 \cdot (-i) + 0 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) + (-1) \cdot (-1) + 0 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) + 1 \cdot (i) + 0 \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) \right)$$

= 0

$$c_2 = \frac{1}{8} \left( -1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot (-i) + 1 \cdot (-1) + 0 \cdot (i) + (-1) \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot (-i) + 1 \cdot (-1) + 0 \cdot (i) \right)$$

(take every other coeff)      (loop around & repeat)

=  $\frac{1}{8} (-4) = -\frac{1}{2}$

$$c_3 = \frac{1}{8} \left( -1 \cdot 1 + 0 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) + 1 \cdot (i) + 0 \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) + (-1) \cdot (-1) + 0 \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) + 1 \cdot (-i) + 0 \left( -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i \right) \right)$$

(take every third coeff)      (loop around & continue)

= 0

$$c_4 = \frac{1}{8} \left( -1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot (-1) + (-1) \cdot (1) + 0 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot (1) + 0 \cdot (-1) \right)$$

(take every 4th coefficient)

= 0

$c_5 = c_{8-3} = \overline{c_3} = 0$

$c_6 = c_{8-2} = \overline{c_2} = -\frac{1}{2}$

$c_7 = c_{8-1} = \overline{c_1} = 0$