

**Fourier Series and
Transforms**

▷ **Revision Lecture**

The Basic Idea

Real v Complex

Series v Transform

Fourier Analysis

Power Conservation

Gibbs Phenomenon

Coefficient Decay

Rate

Periodic Extension

Dirac Delta Function

Fourier Transform

Convolution

Correlation

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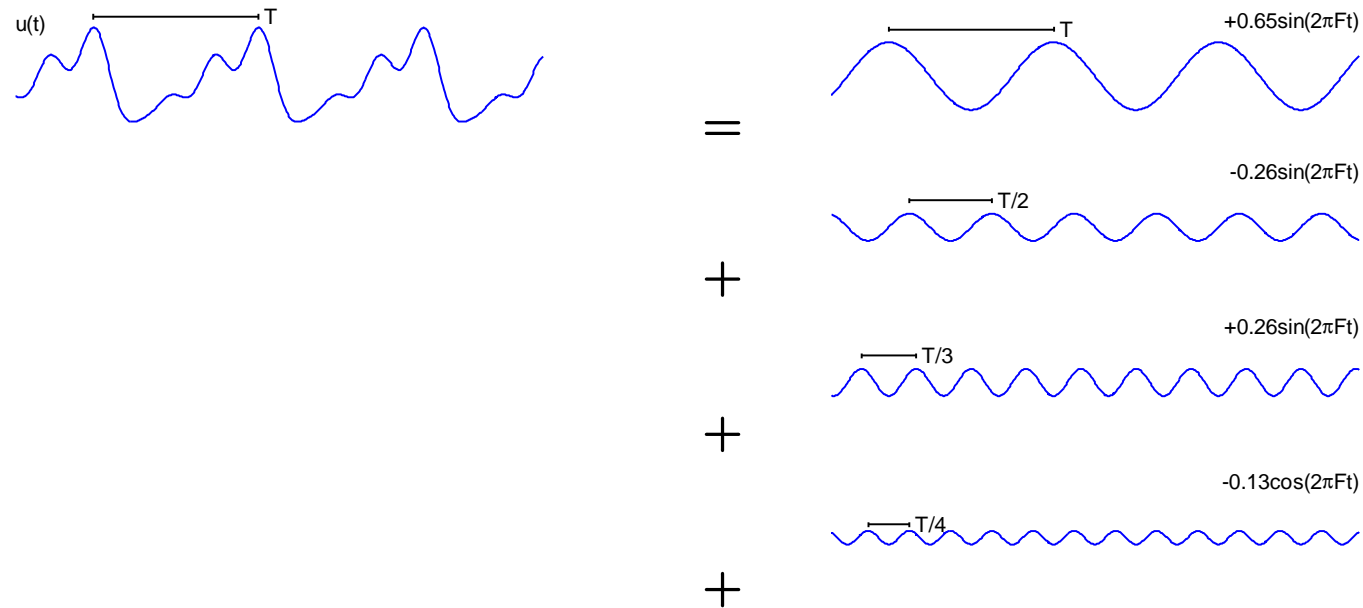
Fourier Transform

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Periodic signals can be written as a sum of sine and cosine waves:

$$u(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos 2\pi n F t + b_n \sin 2\pi n F t)$$



Fundamental Period: the smallest $T > 0$ for which $u(t + T) = u(t)$.

Fundamental Frequency: $F = \frac{1}{T}$. The n^{th} harmonic is at frequency nF .

Some waveforms need infinitely many harmonics (countable infinity).

Real versus Complex Fourier Series

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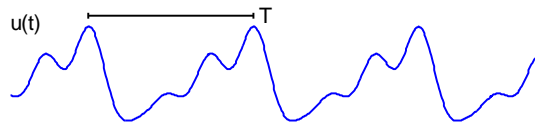
All the **algebra is much easier** if we use $e^{i\omega t}$ instead of $\cos \omega t$ and $\sin \omega t$

$$u(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos 2\pi n F t + b_n \sin 2\pi n F t)$$

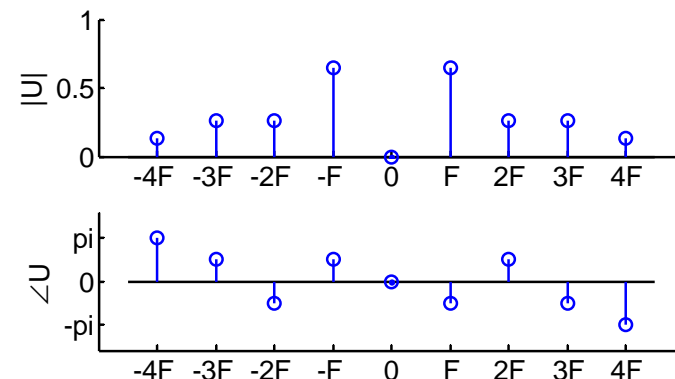
Substitute: $\cos \omega t = \frac{1}{2}e^{i\omega t} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\omega t}$ $\sin \omega t = \frac{-i}{2}e^{i\omega t} + \frac{i}{2}e^{-i\omega t}$

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) &= \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} (a_n - ib_n) e^{i2\pi n F t} + \frac{1}{2} (a_n + ib_n) e^{-i2\pi n F t} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n e^{i2\pi n F t} \end{aligned}$$

- $U_{+n} = \frac{1}{2} (a_n - ib_n)$ and $U_{-n} = \frac{1}{2} (a_n + ib_n)$.
- U_{+n} and U_{-n} are **complex conjugates**.
- U_{+n} is **half the equivalent phasor** in Analysis of Circuits.



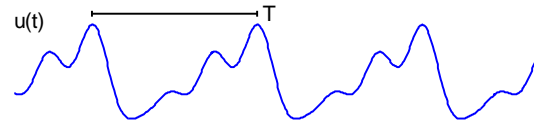
Plot the **magnitude spectrum** and **phase spectrum**:



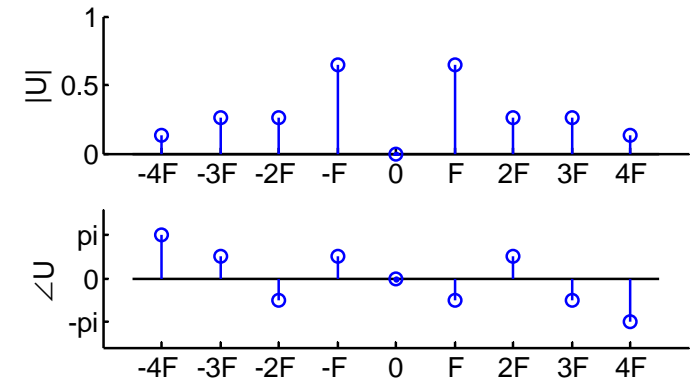
Fourier Series versus Fourier Transform

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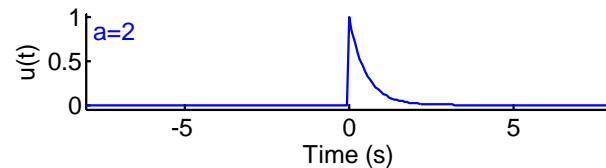
- **Periodic** signals → Fourier **Series** → **Discrete** spectrum



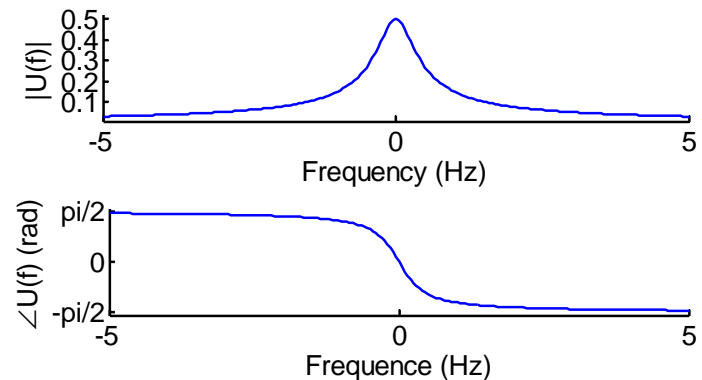
$$u(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n e^{i2\pi n F t}$$



- **Aperiodic** signals → Fourier **Transform** → **Continuous** Spectrum



$$u(t) = \int_{f=-\infty}^{\infty} U(f) e^{i2\pi f t} df$$



- Both types of spectrum are **conjugate symmetric**.
- If $u(t)$ is periodic, its Fourier transform consists of Dirac δ functions with amplitudes $\{U_n\}$.

Fourier Analysis

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Fourier Series: $u(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n e^{i2\pi n F t}$

Fourier Analysis = “how do you work out the Fourier coefficients, U_n ?”

Key idea: $\langle e^{i\omega t} \rangle = \langle \cos \omega t + i \sin \omega t \rangle = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \omega = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

⇒ Orthogonality: $\langle e^{i2\pi n F t} \times e^{-i2\pi m F t} \rangle = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } m = n \\ 0 & \text{for } m \neq n \end{cases}$

So, to find a particular coefficient, U_m , we work out

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u(t) e^{-i2\pi m F t} \rangle &= \left\langle \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n e^{i2\pi n F t} \right) e^{-i2\pi m F t} \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n \langle e^{i2\pi n F t} e^{-i2\pi m F t} \rangle \\ &= U_m \quad \text{[since all other terms are zero]} \end{aligned}$$

Calculate the average by integrating over any integer number of periods

$$U_m = \langle u(t) e^{-i2\pi m F t} \rangle = \frac{1}{T} \int_{t=0}^T u(t) e^{-i2\pi m F t} dt$$

Notice the **negative sign** in Fourier analysis: in order to extract the term in the series containing $e^{+i2\pi m F t}$ we need to multiply by $e^{-i2\pi m F t}$.

Power Conservation

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$$\text{Fourier Series: } u(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n e^{i2\pi n F t}$$

$$\text{Average power in } u(t): P_u \triangleq \langle |u(t)|^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T u^2(t) dt$$

[$u(t)$ real]

Average power in Fourier component n :

$$\langle |U_n e^{i2\pi n F t}|^2 \rangle = \langle |U_n|^2 |e^{i2\pi n F t}|^2 \rangle = |U_n|^2$$

Power conservation (Parseval's Theorem):

$$P_u = \langle |u(t)|^2 \rangle = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |U_n|^2$$

The average power in $u(t)$ is equal to the sum of the average powers in all the Fourier components.

This is a consequence of **orthogonality**:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle |u(t)|^2 \rangle &= \langle \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n e^{i2\pi n F t} \right) \left(\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} U_m^* e^{-i2\pi m F t} \right) \rangle \\ &= \langle \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n U_m^* e^{i2\pi n F t} e^{-i2\pi m F t} \rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n U_m^* \langle e^{i2\pi n F t} e^{-i2\pi m F t} \rangle \\ &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |U_n|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Gibbs Phenomenon

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Truncated Fourier Series: $u_N(t) = \sum_{n=-N}^N U_n e^{i2\pi n F t}$

Approximation error: $e_N(t) = u_N(t) - u(t)$

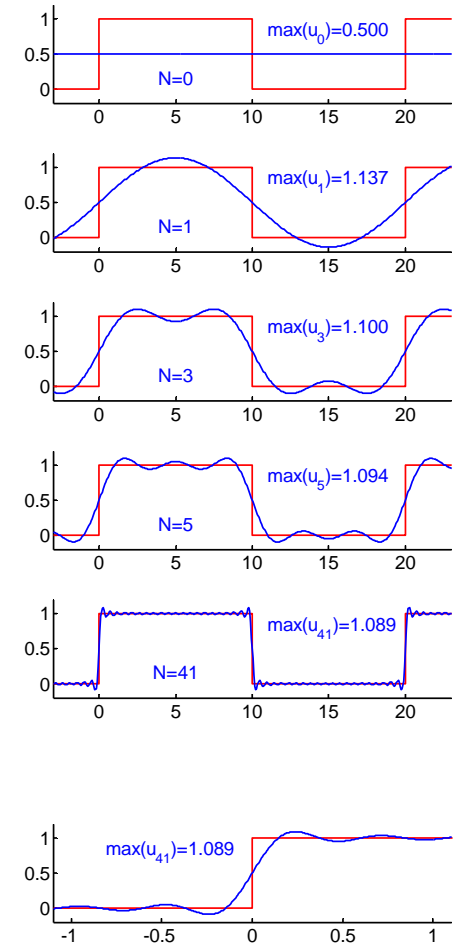
Average error power $P_{e_N} = \sum_{|n|>N} |U_n|^2$.

$P_{e_N} \rightarrow 0$ monotonically as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Gibbs phenomenon

If $u(t_0)$ has a discontinuity of height h then:

- $u_N(t_0) \rightarrow$ **the midpoint** of the discontinuity as $N \rightarrow \infty$.
- $u_N(t)$ **overshoots by $\approx \pm 9\% \times h$** at $t \approx t_0 \pm \frac{T}{2N+1}$.
- For large N , the overshoots move closer to the discontinuity but **do not decrease in size**.



[Enlarged View: $u_{41}(t)$]

Coefficient Decay Rate

$$\text{Fourier Series: } u(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} U_n e^{i2\pi n F t}$$

Integration:

$$v(t) = \int_0^t u(\tau) d\tau \Rightarrow V_n = \frac{1}{i2\pi n F} U_n$$

provided $U_0 = V_0 = 0$.

Differentiation:

$$w(t) = \frac{du(t)}{dt} \Rightarrow W_n = i2\pi n F \times U_n$$

provided $w(t)$ satisfies the Dirichlet conditions.

Coefficient Decay Rate:

$$u(t) \text{ has a discontinuity} \Rightarrow |U_n| \text{ is } O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \text{ for large } |n|$$

$\frac{d^k u(t)}{dt^k}$ is the lowest derivative with a discontinuity

$$\Rightarrow |U_n| \text{ is } O\left(\frac{1}{n^{k+1}}\right) \text{ for large } |n|$$

If the coefficients, U_n , decrease rapidly then only a few terms are needed for a good approximation.

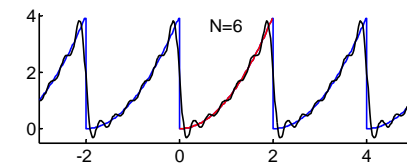
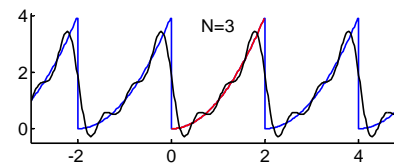
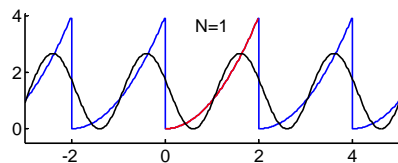
Periodic Extension

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If $u(t)$ is only defined over a finite range, $[0, B]$, we can make it periodic by defining $u(t \pm B) = u(t)$.

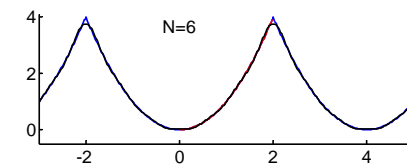
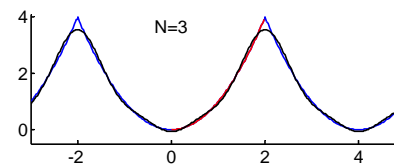
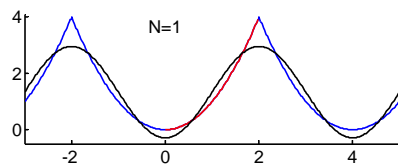
- Coefficients are given by $U_n = \frac{1}{B} \int_0^B u(t) e^{-i2\pi n F t} dt$.

Example: $u(t) = t^2$ for $0 \leq t < 2$



Symmetric extension:

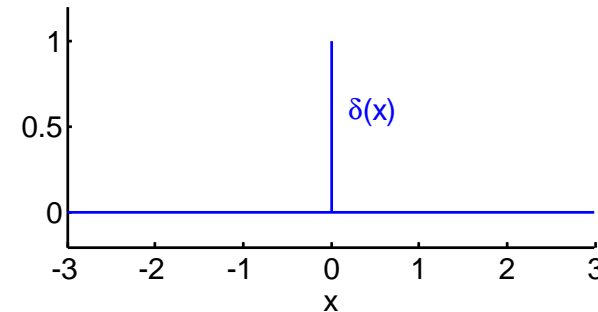
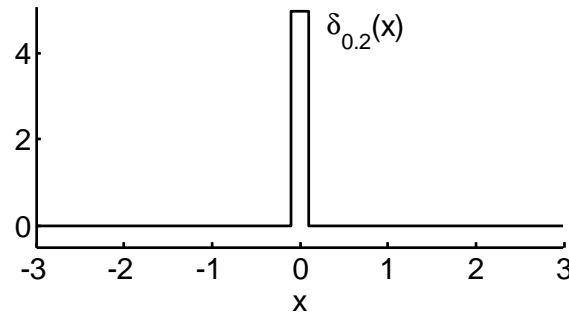
- To avoid a discontinuity at $t = T$, we can instead make the period $2B$ and define $u(-t) = u(+t)$.



- Symmetry around $t = 0$ means coefficients are **real-valued** and **symmetric** ($U_{-n} = U_n^* = U_n$).
- Still have a first-derivative discontinuity at $t = B$ but now we have **no Gibbs phenomenon** and coefficients $\propto n^{-2}$ instead of $\propto n^{-1}$ so approximation error power decreases more quickly.

Dirac Delta Function

$\delta(x)$ is the limiting case as $w \rightarrow 0$ of a pulse w wide and $\frac{1}{w}$ high
It is an infinitely thin, infinitely high pulse at $x = 0$ with unit area.



- **Area:** $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) dx = 1$
- **Scaling:** $\delta(cx) = \frac{1}{|c|} \delta(x)$
- **Shifting:** $\delta(x - a)$ is a pulse at $x = a$ and is zero everywhere else
- **Multiplication:** $f(x) \times \delta(x - a) = f(a) \times \delta(x - a)$
- **Integration:** $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \times \delta(x - a) dx = f(a)$
- **Fourier Transform:** $u(t) = \delta(t) \Leftrightarrow U(f) = 1$
- We **plot** $h\delta(x)$ as a pulse of height $|h|$ (instead of its true height of ∞)

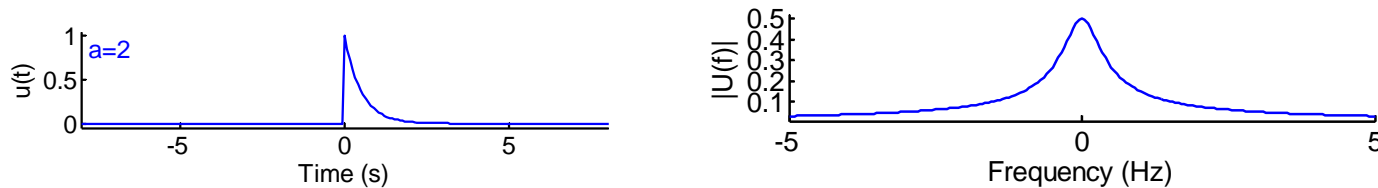
Fourier Transform

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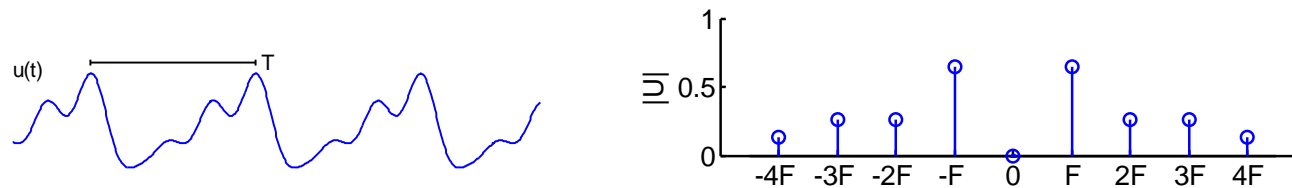
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Fourier Transform: $u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} U(f)e^{i2\pi ft} df$
 $U(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(t)e^{-i2\pi ft} dt$

- An “Energy Signal” has finite energy $\Leftrightarrow E_u = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |u(t)|^2 dt < \infty$
 - Complex-valued spectrum, $U(f)$, decays to zero as $f \rightarrow \pm\infty$
 - **Energy Conservation:** $E_u = E_U$ where $E_U = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |U(f)|^2 df$



- **Periodic Signals** \rightarrow Dirac δ functions at harmonics.
 Same complex-valued amplitudes as U_n from Fourier Series



- $E_u = \infty$ but ave power is $P_u = \langle |u(t)|^2 \rangle = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |U_n|^2$

Convolution

$$\text{Convolution: } w(t) = u(t) * v(t) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad w(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(\tau)v(t - \tau)d\tau$$

[In the integral, the arguments of $u(\)$ and $v(\)$ add up to t]

* acts algebraically like \times : Commutative, Associative, Distributive over $+$.
Identity element is $\delta(t)$: $u(t) * \delta(t) = u(t)$

Multiplication in either the time or frequency domain
is equivalent to **convolution** in the other domain:

$$\begin{aligned} w(t) = u(t) * v(t) &\Leftrightarrow W(f) = U(f)V(f) \\ y(t) = u(t)v(t) &\Leftrightarrow Y(f) = U(f) * V(f) \end{aligned}$$

Example application:

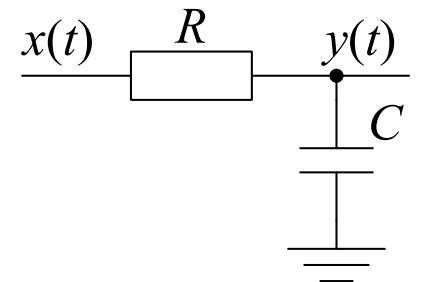
- **Impulse Response:** [$\triangleq y(t)$ for $x(t) = \delta(t)$]

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{RC} e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \text{ for } t \geq 0$$

- **Frequency Response:** $H(f) = \frac{1}{1+i2\pi fRC}$

- **Convolution:** $y(t) = h(t) * x(t)$

- **Multiplication:** $Y(f) = H(f)X(f)$



Correlation

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Cross-correlation:

$$w(t) = u(t) \otimes v(t) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad w(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u^*(\tau - t)v(\tau)d\tau$$

[In the integral, the arguments of $u^*()$ and $v()$ differ by t]

\otimes is **not** commutative or associative (unlike $*$)

Cauchy-Schwartz Inequality \Rightarrow Bound on $|w(t)|$

- For all values of t : $|w(t)|^2 \leq E_u E_v$
- $u(t - t_0)$ is an exact multiple of $v(t) \Leftrightarrow |w(t_0)|^2 = E_u E_v$

Normalized cross-correlation: $\frac{w(t)}{\sqrt{E_u E_v}}$ has a maximum absolute value of 1

- **Cross-correlation** is used to find the time shift, t_0 , at which two signals match and also how well they match.
- **Auto-correlation** is the cross-correlation of a signal with itself: used to find the period of a signal (i.e. the time shift where it matches itself).