



**SIS** Scuola Interdipartimentale  
delle Scienze, dell'Ingegneria  
e della Salute



L. Magistrale in IA (ML&BD)

Scientific Computing  
(part 2 – 6 credits)

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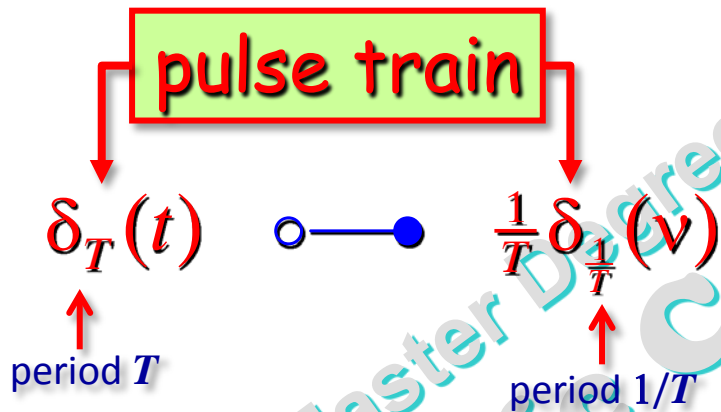
- **Fourier Transform of a Comb function.**
- **Superposition of functions.**
- **Properties of the Fourier Transform.**

# Examples of Fourier Transform

## Comb function (pulse train or sampling function)

$$f(t) = \delta_T(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t - kT) \quad \circ \text{---} \bullet \quad F(\omega) = \frac{2\pi}{T} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta\left(\omega - k\frac{2\pi}{T}\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{i\omega kT}$$

$$F(\nu) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta\left(\nu - \frac{k}{T}\right) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{i2\pi\nu kT}$$



The **Fourier Transform** of a **comb function** is still a **comb function**, but with a **period** equal to the **reciprocal** of the period of the original function.

$\delta_T$  is a series of  $T$ -shifted “ **$\delta$  functions**”, called as **superposition** or **periodic replication** of  $\delta(t)$ ;  $\delta_T$  is characterized by

$$\langle \delta_T, g \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) \delta_T(x) dx = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} g(kT)$$

(it describes the sampling of  $g$ )

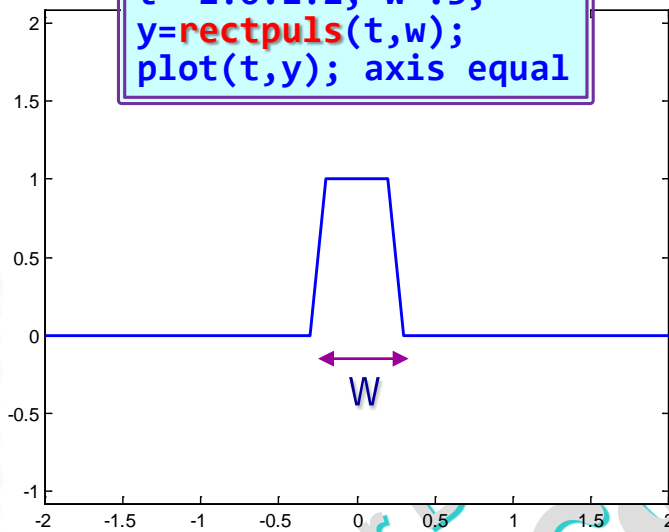
by the **Sifting Property** of the Dirac delta

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) \delta(x - x_0) dx = f(x_0)$$

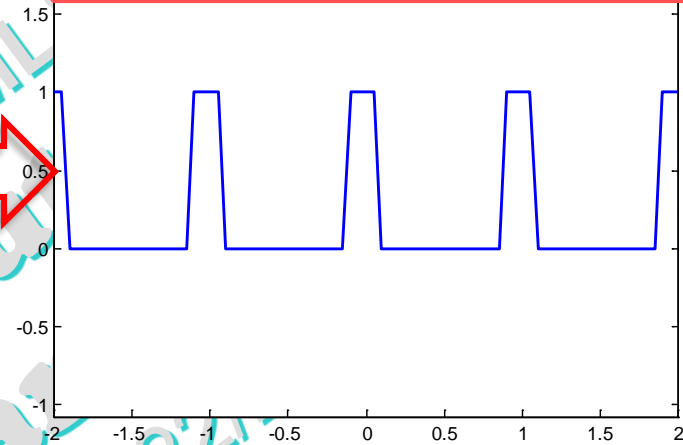
in MATLAB Signal Toolbox `pulstran()`

# pulstran(): in MATLAB Signal Toolbox

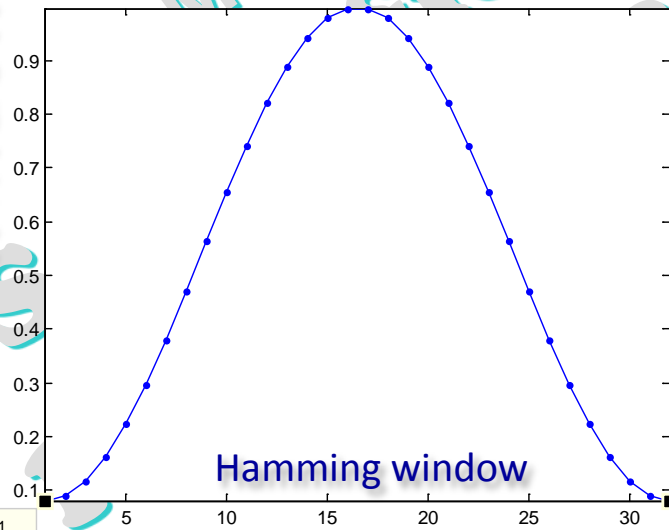
```
t=-2:0.1:2; w=.5;  
y=rectpuls(t,w);  
plot(t,y); axis equal
```



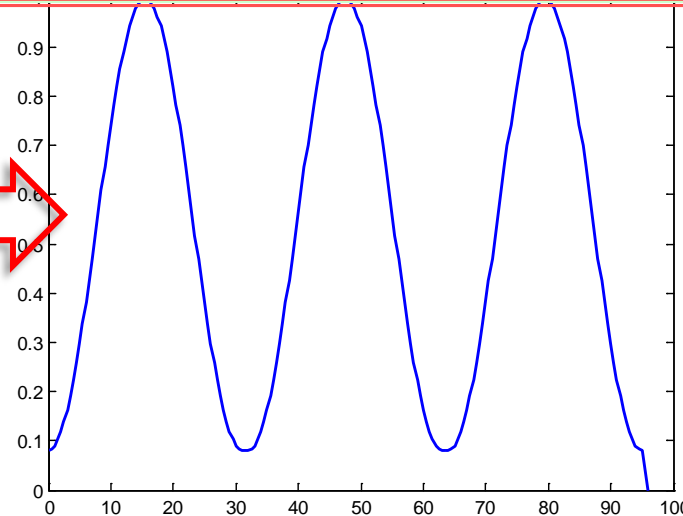
```
t=-2:0.05:2; w=0.2; d=-2:2;  
y=pulstran(t,d,'rectpuls',w);  
plot(t,y); axis equal; grid on
```



```
y=hamming(32); plot(y)
```



```
W=32; N=3; d=(0:N-1)*W; t=0:0.5:N*W;  
p=hamming(W); y=pulstran(t,d,p);  
plot(t,y)
```



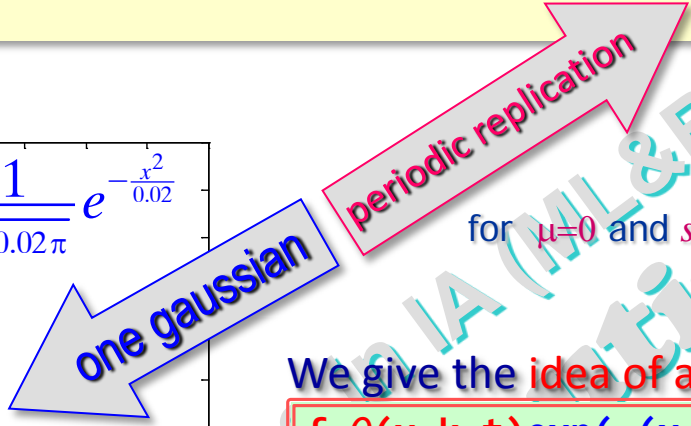
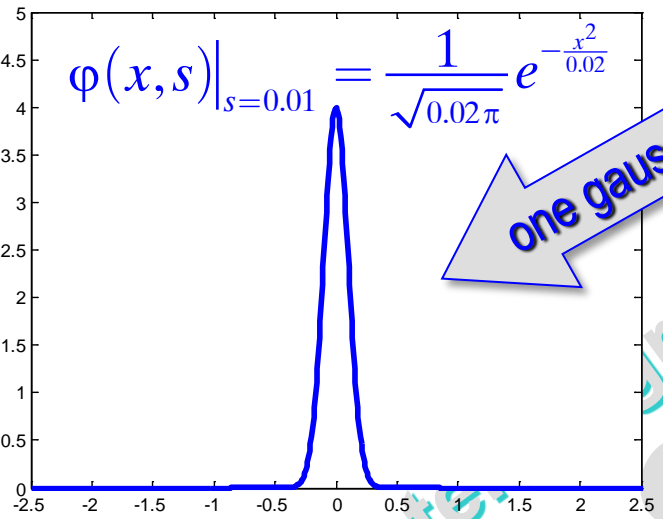
window functions

superposition

X: 1  
Y: 0.08

X: 32  
Y: 0.08

# What is a superposition $\varphi_T(x) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \varphi(x - kT)$ ?



$$p(x, \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

for  $\mu=0$  and  $s=\sigma^2$  it becomes  $\varphi(x, s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi s}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2s}}$

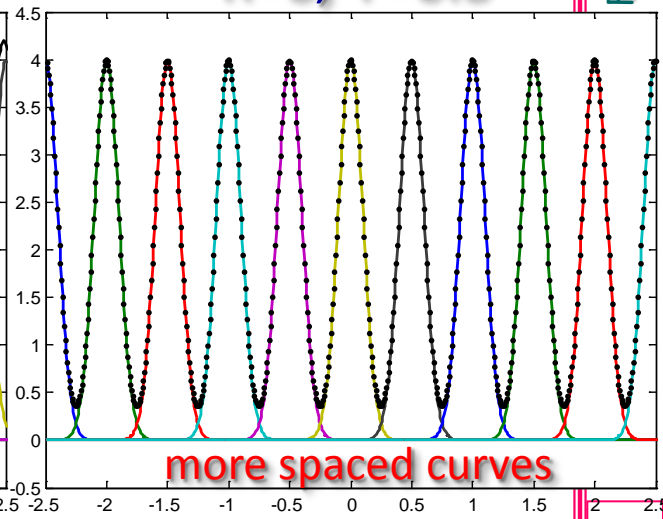
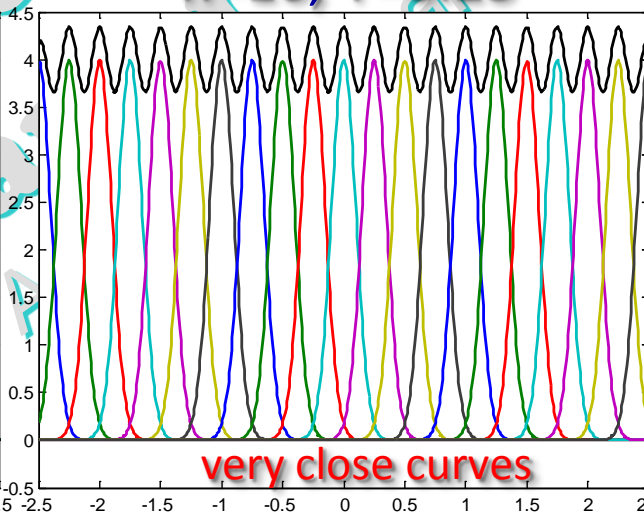
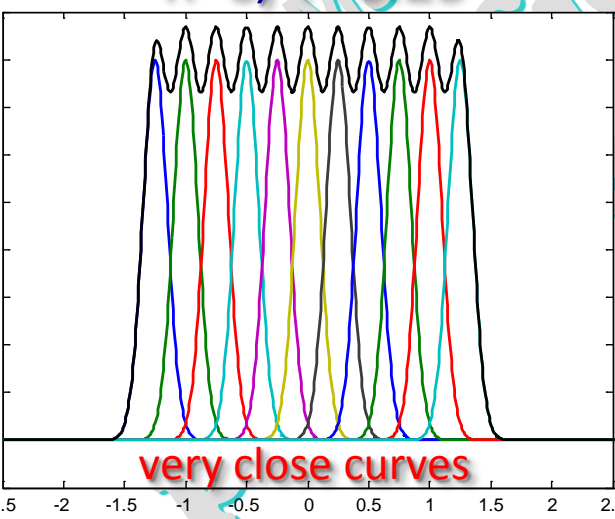
We give the idea of a superposition, but in a finite case

```
f=@(x,k,t)exp(-(x-k*t).^2/0.02)/sqrt(pi*0.02);
n=5; k=-n:n; x=linspace(-4,4,1001);
[K,X]=meshgrid(k,x); T=0.25;
F=f(X,K,T); plot(x',F, x',(sum(F,2)), 'k')
axis([-2.5 2.5 -.5 4.5])
```

n=5; T=0.25

n=10; T=0.25

n=5; T=0.5



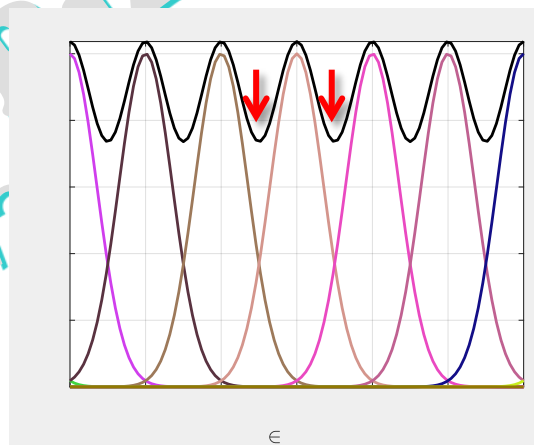
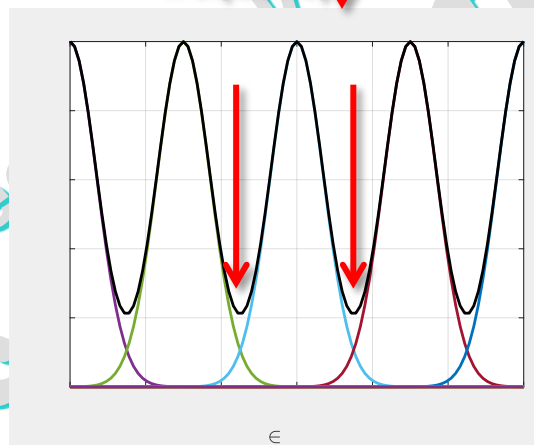
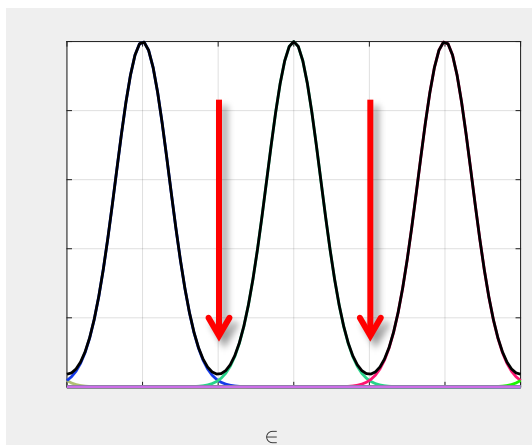
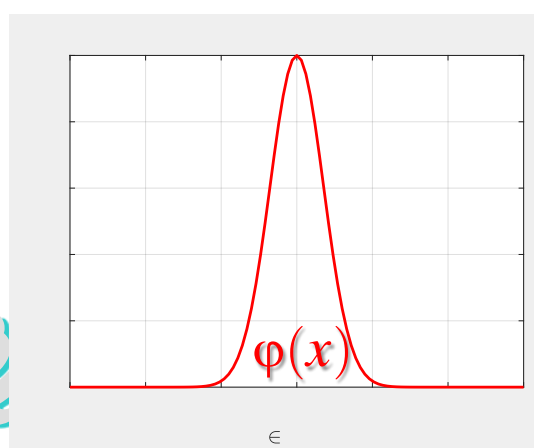
The black curve represents the (finite) superposition of n gaussians with a T period



# Download: finite\_superposition.p

$$\varphi_T(x) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \varphi(x - kT)$$

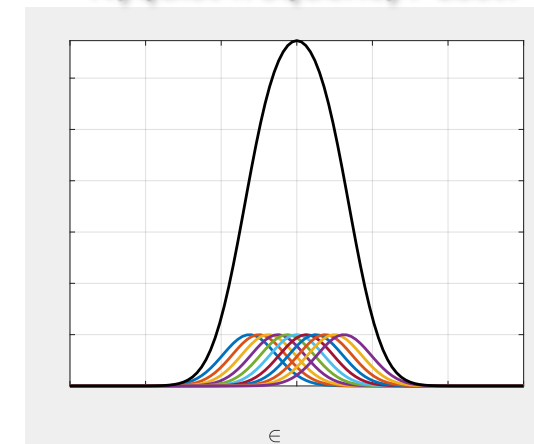
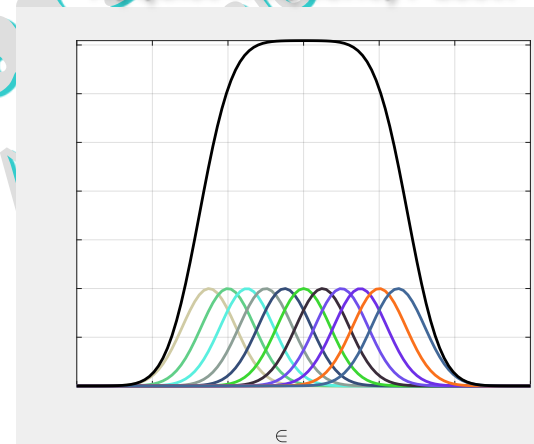
(infinite) superposition



Nyquist frequency? Lost!

Nyquist frequency? Lost!

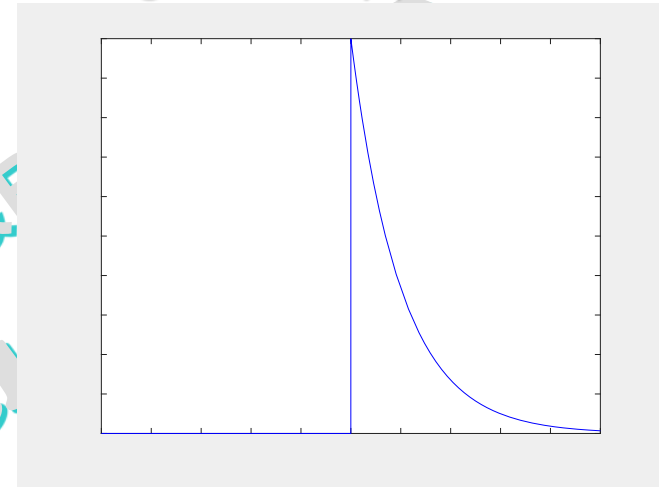
Nyquist frequency? Lost!



# a bit of terminology ...

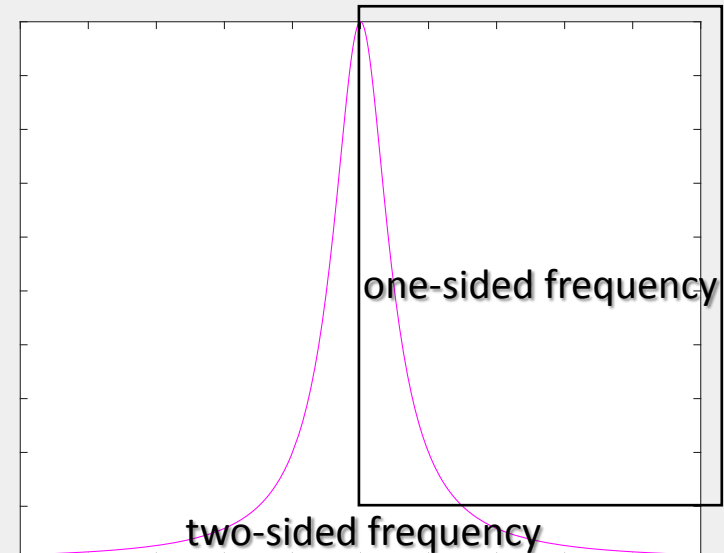
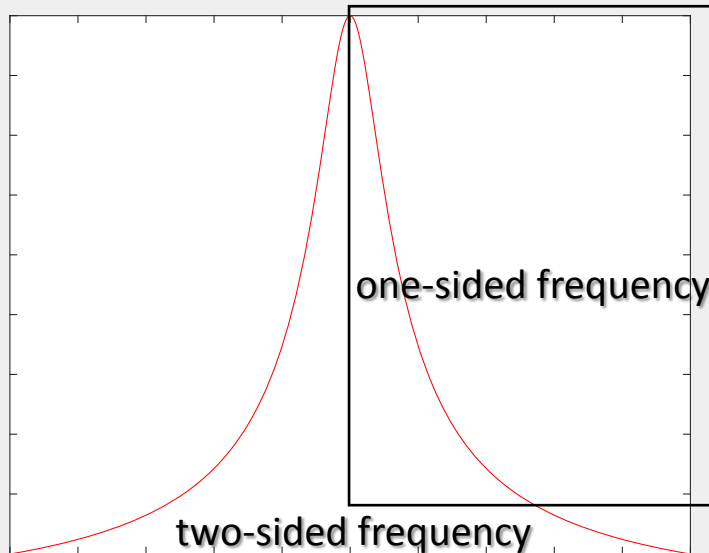
```
syms t real
ft=exp(-abs(t))*heaviside(t);
figure; fplot(ft,[-5 5]); axis tight
Fw=simplify(fourier(ft));
figure; fplot(abs(Fw), [-10 10])
figure; fplot(abs(Fw)^2, [-10 10])
```

signal: decay pulse  $e^{-|t|}$



Fourier Spectrum:  $|F(\omega)|$

Power Spectrum:  $|F(\omega)|^2$

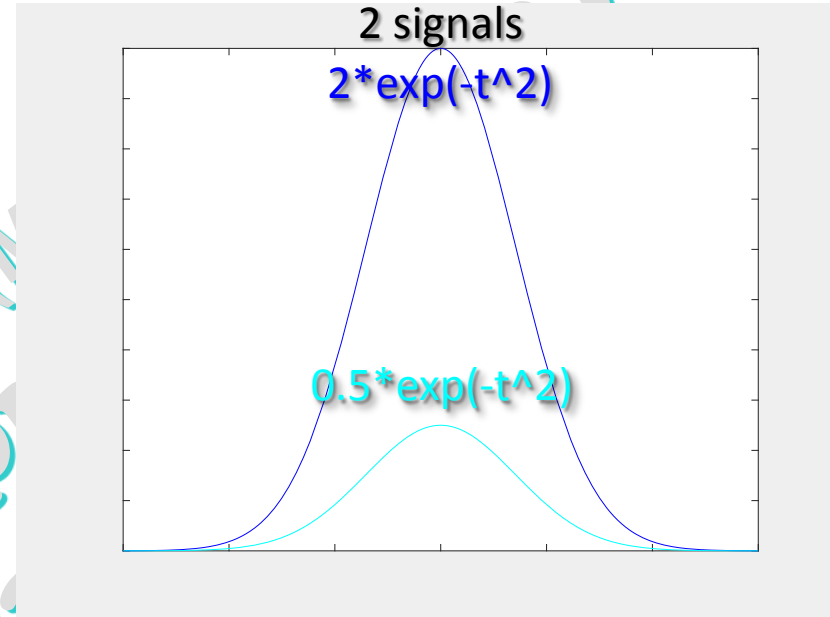


frequency  $\omega$

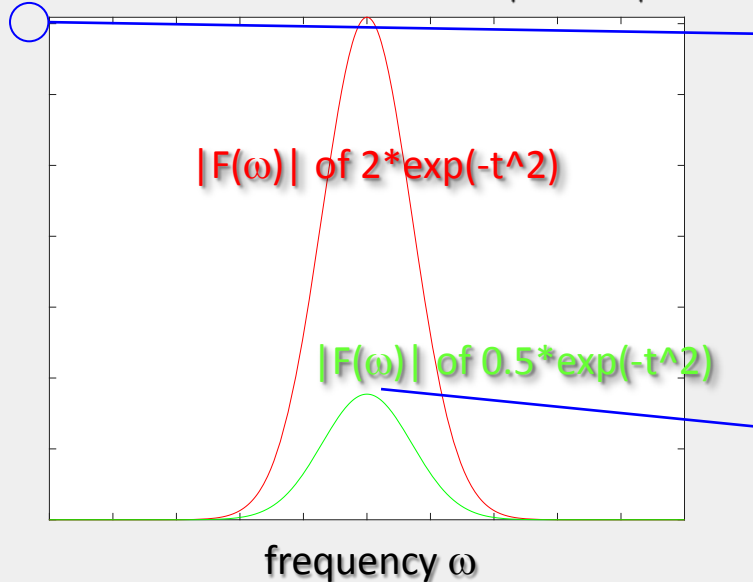
frequency  $\omega$

# What is the Power Spectrum for?

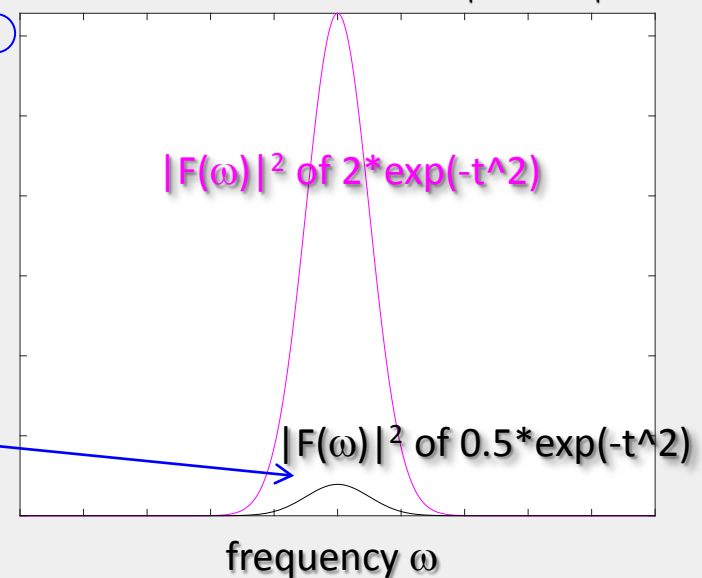
The **Power Spectrum** amplifies the large values of the Fourier Spectrum ( $|F(\omega)| > 1$ ) and shrinks its small values ( $|F(\omega)| < 1$ ).



Fourier Spectrum:  $|F(\omega)|$



Power Spectrum:  $|F(\omega)|^2$





# Main properties of the Fourier Transform [1]

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the map which transforms a function  $f(x) \in L^1(-\infty, +\infty)$  into its **Fourier Transform**  $F(\omega)$

$$\mathcal{F} : f \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}[f, \omega] = F(\omega) \quad \boxed{f(t) \bullet \text{---} \circ F(\omega)}$$

- $\mathcal{F}[f, \omega]$  is a **linear operator**:  $\mathcal{F}[\alpha f + \beta g, \omega] = \alpha F(\omega) + \beta G(\omega)$ .
- If  $f$  is an **even function**, then  $F(\omega)$  is **real** and it is in turn an **even function**.
- If  $f$  is an **odd function**, then  $F(\omega)$  is **purely imaginary** and it is in turn an **odd function**.
- If  $f$  is a **real-valued function**, then  $F(\omega)$  is a **complex valued function**, and

$$F(\oplus \omega) = \overline{F(\ominus \omega)}$$

- **Shift Properties**: shifting (or translating) a function in the time domain  $t \pm h$  corresponds to a rotation by an angle  $\pm h\omega$  in the frequency domain, i.e.

$$f(t \pm h) \bullet \text{---} \circ e^{\pm ih\omega} F(\omega) \quad \boxed{\text{Time shift property}}$$

and shifting (or translating) in the frequency domain  $\omega \mp \lambda$  corresponds to a rotation by an angle  $\pm \lambda t$  in the time domain, i.e.

$$e^{\pm i\lambda t} f(t) \bullet \text{---} \circ F(\omega \mp \lambda) \quad \boxed{\text{Frequency shift property}}$$

# Main properties of the Fourier Transform [2]

- **Time scaling** (or **Similarity Property**): if  $f(t) \bullet \longrightarrow \circ \mathcal{F}[f, \omega] = F(\omega)$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ , then

$$f(ct) \bullet \longrightarrow \circ F(\omega/c)/|c|$$

- **Convolution Property**: if  $f, g \in L^1(-\infty, +\infty)$  also  $f * g \in L^1$ , then the convolution of signals in the time domain will be transformed into the multiplication of their Fourier Transforms in the frequency domain, and, conversely, the multiplication of signals in the time domain will be transformed into the convolution of their Fourier Transforms in the frequency domain:

$$\mathcal{F}[f * g, \omega] = \frac{1}{2\pi} F(\omega) \cdot G(\omega) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{F}[f \cdot g, \omega] = F(\omega) * G(\omega)$$

$$\mathcal{F}[f * g, \nu] = F(\nu) \cdot G(\nu) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{F}[f \cdot g, \nu] = F(\nu) * G(\nu)$$

where the **convolution** between  $f, g \in L^1(-\infty, +\infty)$  is defined as

$$[f * g](\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t)g(\tau - t) dt$$

- **Parseval's Identity** (or **Rayleigh's Energy Theorem**)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |f(t)|^2 dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |F(\omega)|^2 d\omega$$

# Main properties of the Fourier Transform [3]

- **Differentiation of  $f(t)$ :** If  $f$  is absolutely continuous and summable, and  $f'$  is summable, then

$$\mathcal{F}[f', \omega] = i\omega \mathcal{F}[f, \omega]$$

More generally, if  $f$  is absolutely continuous and summable with its first  $k-1$  derivatives, and  $f^{(k)}$  is summable, then

$$\mathcal{F}[f^{(k)}, \omega] = (i\omega)^k \mathcal{F}[f, \omega]$$

- **Differentiation of  $F(\omega)$ :** If  $f(t), tf(t) \in L^1(-\infty, +\infty)$ , then  $F$  has a continuous derivative, and

$$F'(\omega) = \mathcal{F}[-itf(t), \omega]$$

More generally, if  $f(t), tf(t), \dots, t^k f(t) \in L^1(-\infty, +\infty)$ , then  $F$  has continuous derivatives up to order  $k$ , and

$$F^{(k)}(\omega) = \mathcal{F}[-(it)^k f(t), \omega]$$

- **Symmetry (or Duality) Property:**

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{F}[F(\omega), y] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(\omega) e^{-i\omega y} d\omega = 2\pi f(-y) \\ \mathcal{F}[F(\nu), y] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(\nu) e^{-2\pi i \nu y} d\nu = f(-y) \end{cases}$$

reversed signal

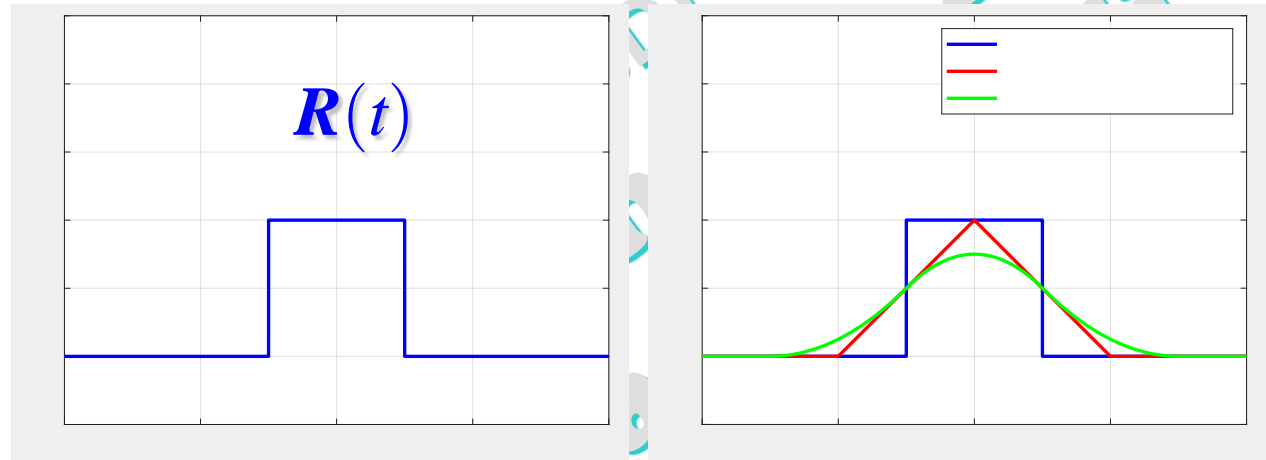
- **Riemann-Lebesgue Lemma:** If  $f(t) \in L^1(-\infty, +\infty)$ , then  $F(\omega)$  is a continuous function and it is infinitesimal at  $\infty$ .

# Application of Convolution Property (w.r.t. the circular freq)

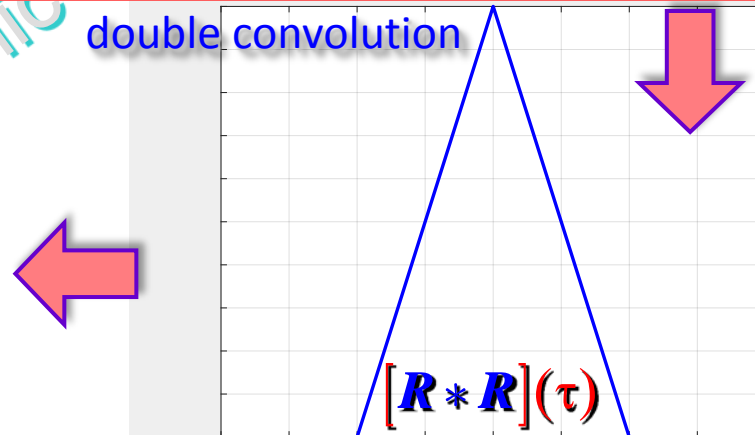
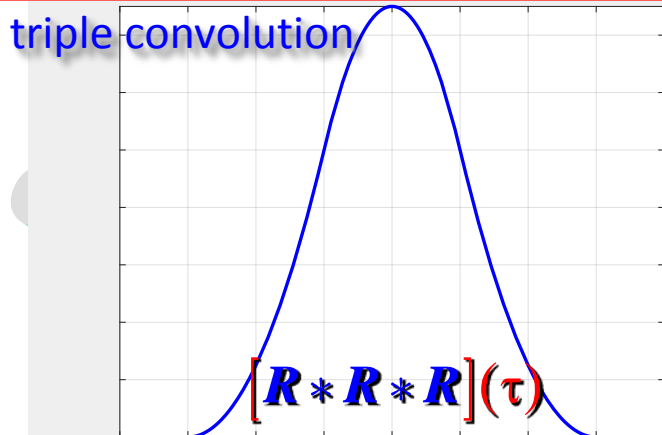
$$[f * g](\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t)g(\tau-t)dt \quad f * g = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{\mathcal{F}[f] \cdot \mathcal{F}[g]\}$$

rect pulse

$$R(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & |t| < \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & |t| > \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$



```
syms t w real; Rt=rectangularPulse(t); Fw=simplify(fourier(Rt))
fplot(Rt,[-2 2],'Color','b','LineWidth',2); hold on
F2=Fw*Fw; R2=simplify(ifourier(F2),100); % double convolution R(t)*R(t)
fplot(R2,[-2 2],'Color','r','LineWidth',2)
F3=F2*Fw; R3=simplify(ifourier(F3),100); % triple convolution R(t)*R(t)*R(t)
fplot(R3,[-2 2],'Color','g','LineWidth',2)
```

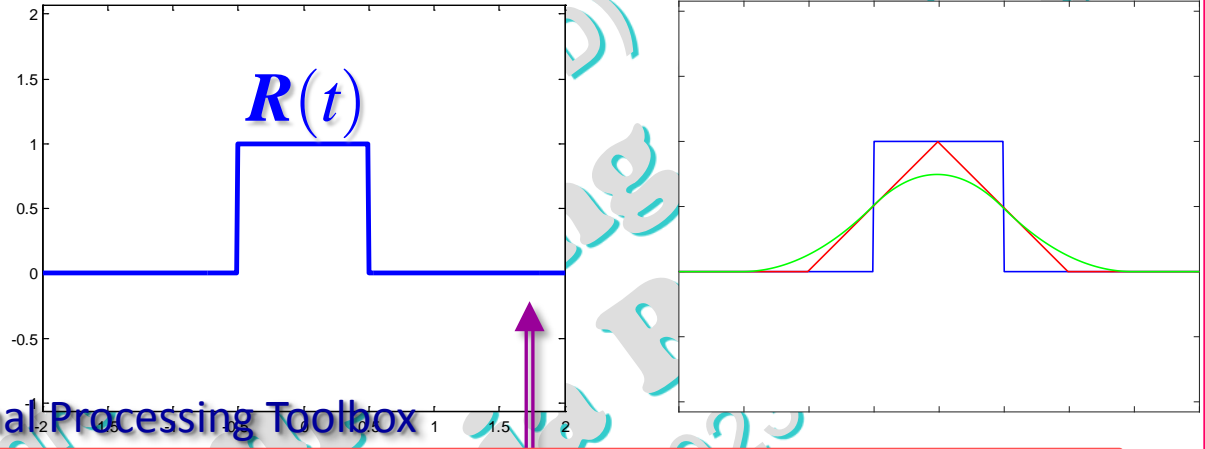


# Numerical application of Convolution Property (w.r.t. the circular freq)

Equivalently by `conv()` ... `RR=conv(R,R,'same')*T/N;`

rect pulse

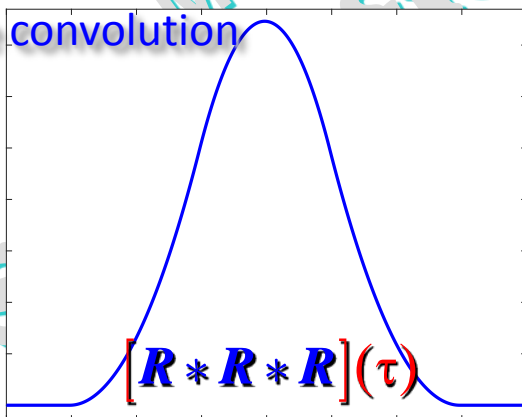
$$R(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & |t| < \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & |t| > \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$



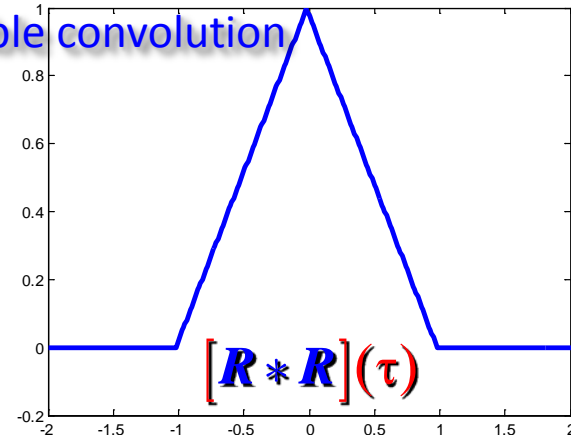
`rectpuls()`: in MATLAB Signal Processing Toolbox

```
a=-2; b=2; T=b-a; t=a:.01:b; N=numel(t)-1; R=rectpuls(t); plot(t,R,'b')
axis equal; hold on
RR=conv(R,R,'same')*T/N; plot(t,RR,'r') % double convolution
RRR=conv(RRR,R,'same')*T/N; plot(t,RRR,'g') % triple convolution
```

triple convolution



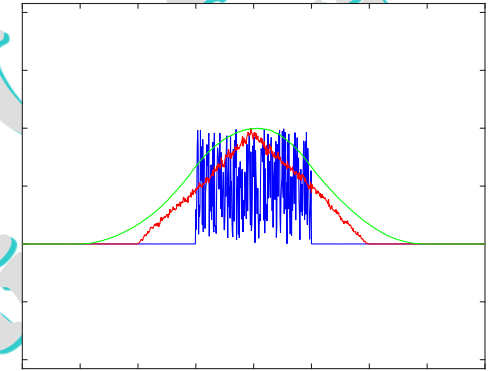
double convolution



**Exercise:** repeat with DFT (`fft`) and with `cconv(R,R,N)`

# Numerical application of Convolution Property (w.r.t. the circular freq)

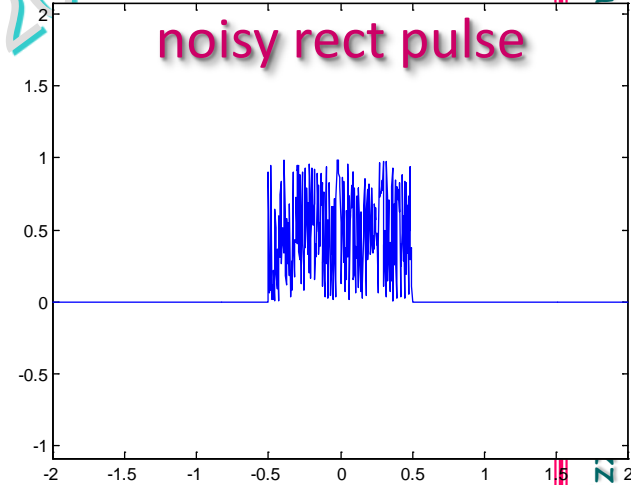
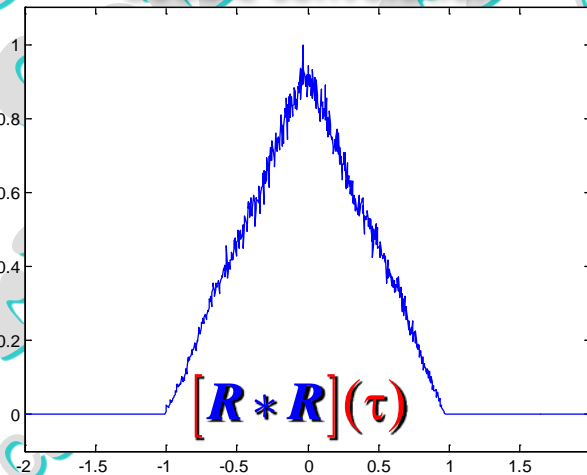
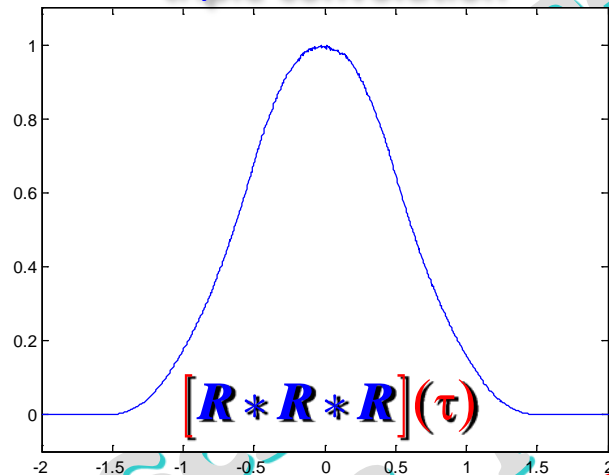
```
a=-2; b=2; T=b-a;
t=a:.01:b; N=numel(t)-1;
rng('default');
R=rectpuls(t).*rand(size(t)); % with uniform random noise
RR=conv(R,R,'same')*T/N; % RR double convolution R(t)*R(t)
RRR=conv(RR,R,'same')*T/N; % RRR triple convolution R(t)*R(t)*R(t)
plot(t,R,'b'); axis equal; hold on
plot(t,RR/max(RR),'r')
plot(t,RRR/max(RRR),'g')
```



triple convolution

double convolution

noisy rect pulse



the noise has been abated! (convolution as data filtering)

**Exercise:** repeat with DFT (fft) and with cconv(R,R,N)



From the previous example, we get the following:

From  $\text{sinc}(\omega)$  being the Fourier Transform of the rect pulse:

$$\mathcal{F}[\text{rect pulse}, \omega] = \text{sinc}(\omega)$$

it follows that the Fourier Transform of the triangular function is  $\text{sinc}^2(\omega)$ :

$$\mathcal{F}[\text{triangular pulse}, \omega] = \text{sinc}^2(\omega)$$

**Quiz: ... Why?**  
Explain your answer