

Discrete Fourier transform

Suppose we are given $f(t)$, a continuous, periodic function that has period 2π .

Then
$$f(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a_k e^{ikt}$$

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

Now imagine that $f(t)$ is a signal [e.g. Audio] that is being sampled at a rate ωt ; that is, we only know $f_n = f(t_n)$

where $t_n = \omega t n$

Suppose moreover that

$$\omega t = \frac{2\pi}{N}$$

[i.e. we sample N times in a single period].

Then we can use Riemann approximation

$$a_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) e^{-ikt} dt \approx \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \omega t f_n e^{-iktn}$$

Question: How well is a_k approximated?

Let

$$\hat{a}_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-ikt_n}$$

$$\hat{a}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-\frac{i2\pi kn}{N}}$$

- When is $\hat{a}_k = a_k$?
- First, suppose that $f(t) = e^{int}$ [pure wave, single frequency]

Then $\hat{a}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{i\frac{2\pi}{N}(m-k)n}$.

- If $m-k \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ then

$$e^{i\frac{2\pi(m-k)}{N}} = 1, \text{ so that}$$

$$\hat{a}_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} 1 = 1$$

- If $m-k \not\equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum e^{i\frac{2\pi(m-k)}{N}n} &= \sum_0^{N-1} z^n \quad [z = e^{\frac{2\pi i(m-k)}{N}}] \\ &= \frac{z^N - 1}{z - 1} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus: $\hat{a}_k = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } m \equiv k \pmod{N} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

[if $f(t) = 1 \cdot e^{int}$]

In particular, if $|m| < \frac{N}{2}$ then

$$\hat{a}_k = a_k \quad \forall |k| < \frac{N}{2}$$

Similarly, suppose

$$f(t) = \sum a_m e^{imt} \quad \text{Then}$$

$$\hat{a}_k = \sum_{m \equiv k \pmod{N}} a_m$$

In particular, if

$$f(t) = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} e^{imt} a_m, \quad f_k = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} e^{im \frac{2\pi k}{N}} a_m$$

then $\hat{a}_k = a_k$ so that $f_k = \sum \hat{a}_n e^{in \frac{2\pi k}{N}}$

This relationship is called "Discrete Fourier Transform."

To summarize:

$$f_n = \sum_{m=0}^{N-1} \hat{a}_m e^{\frac{2\pi i n m}{N}}, \quad n = 0 \dots N-1$$

if and only if

$$\hat{a}_m = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n e^{-\frac{2\pi m n i}{N}}, \quad m = 0 \dots N-1$$

Remark: in Matlab, if f is an array $N \times 1$
then

$$\hat{a} = \text{fft}(f) \quad \text{is its D.F.T.}$$

[fft stands for "fast fourier transform"]

and conversely, $f = \text{ifft}(\hat{a})$

Fast Fourier Transform (FFT):

- Computing all \hat{a}_m from (*) takes $O(N^2)$ time
[i.e. $O(N)$ for each $a_m, m=0 \dots N-1$]
 - FFT is a way to compute all of \hat{a}_m in $O(N \ln N)$ time.
 - Let $Z_m = N \hat{a}_m$; let $\omega_N = e^{-\frac{2\pi i}{N}}$.
- E.g. if $N=4$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} Z_m &= \omega_4^{m \cdot 0} f_0 + \omega_4^{m \cdot 1} f_1 + \omega_4^{m \cdot 2} f_2 + \omega_4^{m \cdot 3} f_3 \\ &= \omega_4^0 (f_0 + \omega_4^{2m} f_2) + \omega_4^1 (f_1 + \omega_4^{2m} f_3) \\ &= \underbrace{(f_0 + \omega_2^m f_2)}_{\text{FFT w. } N=2} + \underbrace{\omega_4^1 (f_1 + \omega_2^m f_3)}_{\text{FFT w. } N=2} \end{aligned}$$

If $N=8$:

$$\begin{aligned}z_m &= \omega_8^{0m} (f_0 + \omega_8^{2m} f_2 + \omega_8^{4m} f_4 + \omega_8^{6m} f_6) \\&\quad + \omega_8^{1m} (f_1 + \omega_8^{2m} f_3 + \omega_8^{4m} f_5 + \omega_8^{6m} f_7) \\&= (\underbrace{f_0 + \omega_4^m f_2 + \omega_4^{2m} f_4 + \omega_4^{3m} f_6}_{\text{FFT, } N=4}) + \omega_8^1 (\underbrace{f_1 + \omega_4^{2m} f_3 + \omega_4^{4m} f_5 + \omega_4^{6m} f_7}_{\text{FFT, } N=4})\end{aligned}$$

Conclusion:

Let $T(N) = \text{time for FFT}_N$;

then $T(2N) = T(N) \cdot 2 + K$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{T(N) = O(N \log N)}$$

Gibbs Phenomenon and convergence of Fourier series

Suppose $f(t) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} a_m e^{int}$ can be (1)

represented by Fourier series where

$$a_m = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-ims} f(s) ds \quad (2)$$

Consider a partial sum:

$$f_N(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{m=-N}^N a_m e^{int} \quad (3)$$

The statement " $f(t)$ can be represented by (1, 2)" means " $f_N(t) \rightarrow f(t)$ as $N \rightarrow \infty$ ".

The fundamental theorem for Fourier series is that this is the case provided that $f(t)$ is continuous and 2π -periodic on \mathbb{R} .

Key idea: Plug (2) into (3):

$$f_N(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sum_{m=-N}^N i^m e^{int-s} f(s) ds$$

The sum can be summed up explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } K(\varphi) &= \sum_{m=-N}^N e^{im\varphi} \\ &= e^{-iN\varphi} \left(1 + e^{i\varphi} + e^{i2\varphi} + \dots + e^{i(N-1)\varphi} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= e^{-iN\varphi} \left(\frac{1 - e^{i\varphi 2N+1}}{1 - e^{i\varphi}} \right) = \frac{e^{-iN\varphi} - e^{i\varphi(N+1)}}{1 - e^{i\varphi}} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-i(N+\frac{1}{2})\varphi} - e^{i\varphi(N+\frac{1}{2})}}{e^{-i\varphi/2} - e^{i\varphi/2}} \\
 &= \frac{\sin((N+\frac{1}{2})\varphi)}{\sin(\frac{\varphi}{2})}
 \end{aligned}$$

So we get:

$$f_N(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} K(t-s) f(s) ds$$

where $K(\varphi) = \frac{\sin((N+\frac{1}{2})\varphi)}{\sin(\frac{\varphi}{2})}$

Key idea: Let $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{N+\frac{1}{2}}$; write

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_N(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} K(\varphi) f(t-\varphi) d\varphi \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{\sin(\frac{\varphi}{\varepsilon})}{\sin(\frac{\varphi}{2})} f(t-\varphi) d\varphi \\
 f_N(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/\varepsilon}^{\pi/\varepsilon} \frac{\sin(u)}{\sin(\frac{\varepsilon u}{2})} \varepsilon f(t-\varepsilon u) du,
 \end{aligned}$$

$\varepsilon = (N+\frac{1}{2})^{-1}$

Next, estimate: ① replace $\int_{-\pi/\epsilon}^{\pi/\epsilon}$ by $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}$

② replace $\sin(\epsilon u) \sim \frac{\epsilon u}{2}$

Then formally, we get:

$$f_N(t) \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin u}{u} f(t - \epsilon u) du \quad ③$$

Finally, take limit $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, $f(t - \epsilon u) \rightarrow f(t)$

$$\text{so that } f_N(t) \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin u}{u} f(t) du$$

$$\sim \frac{f(t)}{\pi} 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sin u}{u} du$$

- One can show that $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sin u}{u} du = \frac{\pi}{2}$

so we get $f_N(t) \rightarrow f(t)$ as $N \rightarrow \infty$

- Steps ① and ② can be made rigorous for any integrable $f(t)$
- Step ③ can be made rigorous for any continuous $f(t)$

Gibbs Phenomenon:

Suppose $f(t) =$



is a square wave, $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 < t < \pi \end{cases}$.

Compute:

$$a_m = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) e^{-imt} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{-imt} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } m = 0 \\ \frac{1}{2\pi im} (1 - e^{-im\pi}) & \text{if } m \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } m = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } m \text{ is even} \\ \frac{1}{im\pi} & \text{if } m \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Thus formally we write,

$$f(t) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} a_m e^{imt} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{i\pi} \left(e^{it} - e^{-it} + \frac{e^{3it}}{3} - \frac{e^{-3it}}{3} + \dots \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \left(\sin(t) + \frac{1}{3} \sin(3t) + \frac{1}{5} \sin(5t) + \dots \right)$$

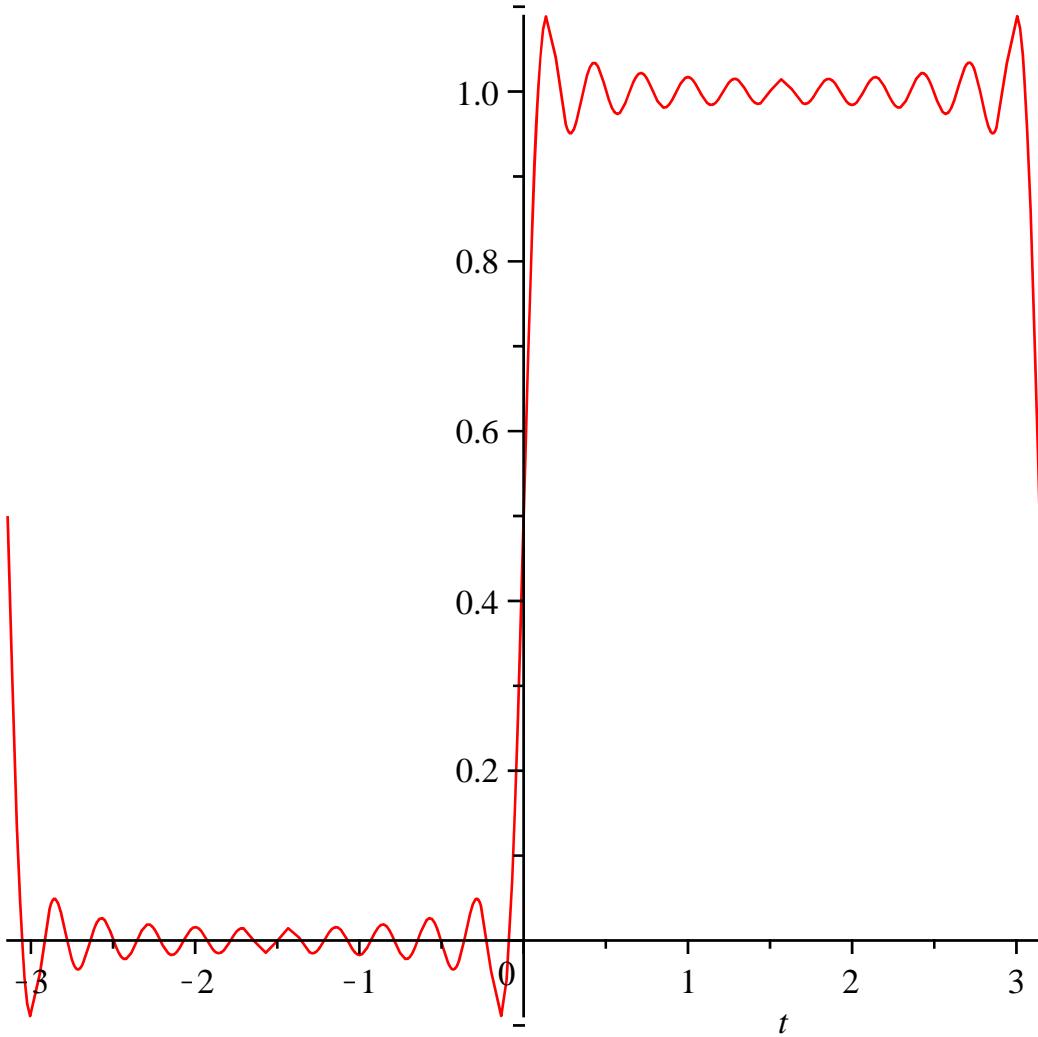
$$\text{Let } f_N(t) = \sum_{m=-N}^N a_m e^{imt} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \left(\sin t + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3t + \dots + \frac{1}{N} \sin Nt \right)$$

[N odd]

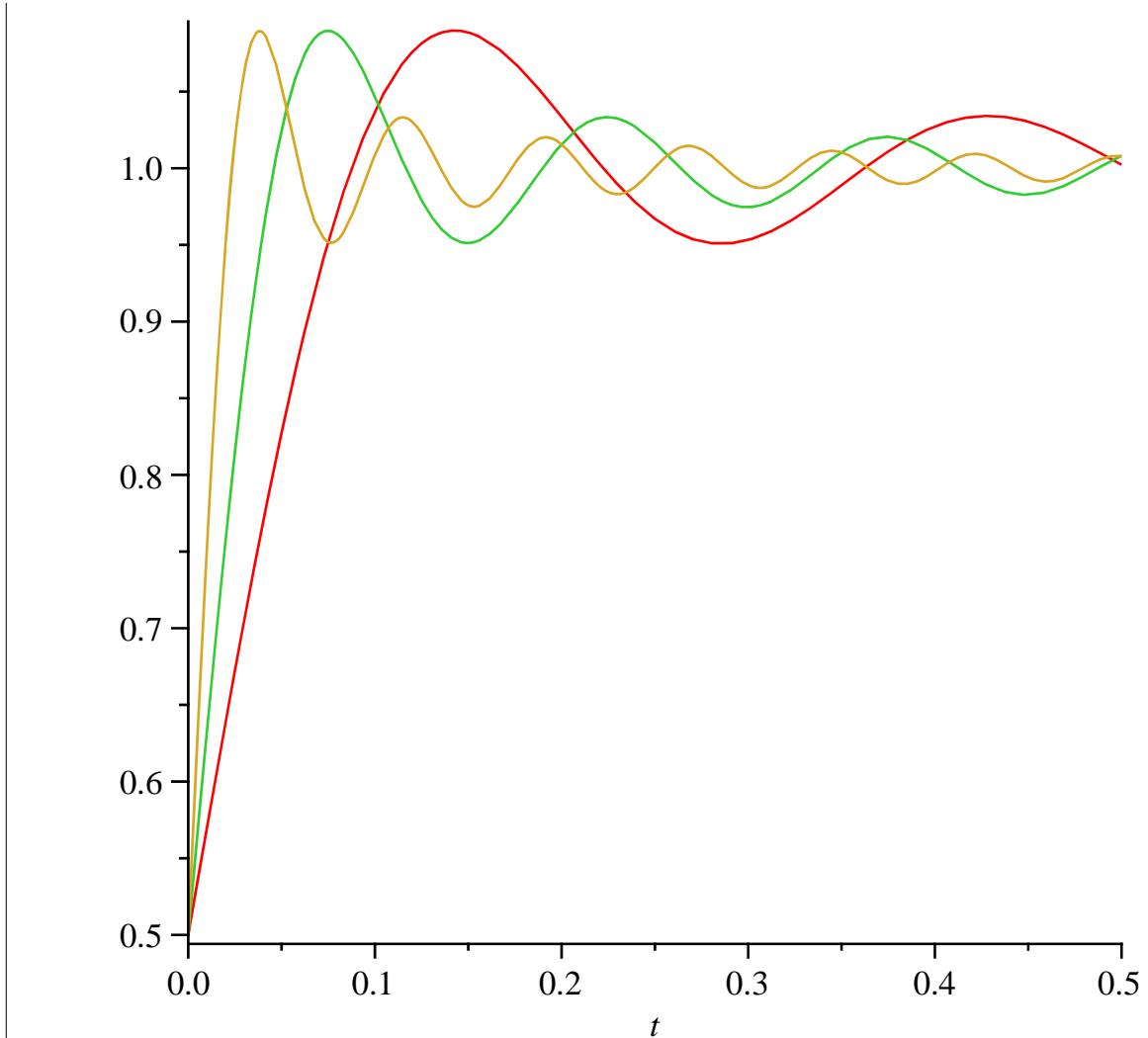
be the partial sum.

The figure on next page shows compares f , f_{20} , f_{40} , f_{80} . Note that it appears that $f_N(t) \rightarrow f(t)$ except near $t \approx 0$.

```
[> f20 := 2/Pi*sum(sin((2*n+1)*t)/(2*n+1),n=0..10)+1/2:  
[> f40 := 2/Pi*sum(sin((2*n+1)*t)/(2*n+1),n=0..20)+1/2:  
[> f80 := 2/Pi*sum(sin((2*n+1)*t)/(2*n+1),n=0..40)+1/2:  
> plot(f20,t=-Pi..Pi);
```



```
[>  
> plot([f20,f40,f80], t=0..0.5);
```



Near $t=0$, f_N has a max of about 1.09, an overshoot of about 9%, which appears to persist even as N is increased.

This is precisely the Gibbs phenomenon: f_N oscillates highly and overshoots $f(0)$ by about 9% near a jump discontinuity of $f(t)$.

To explain this, recall we approximated

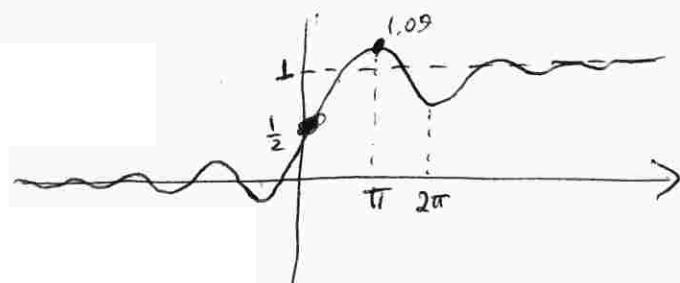
$$f_N(t) \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin u}{u} f(t-\varepsilon u) du \quad [\text{where } \varepsilon = \frac{1}{N+1}]$$

$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t-\varepsilon u < 0 \Leftrightarrow u > \frac{t}{\varepsilon} \\ 1 & \text{if } u < \frac{t}{\varepsilon} \end{cases}$

$$\sim \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\frac{t}{\varepsilon}} \frac{\sin u}{u} du \sim F\left(\frac{t}{\varepsilon}\right)$$

Suppose where $F(z) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^z \frac{\sin u}{u} du$

Now $F(z)$ is the so-called Fresnel Integral; its graph is:



$$F'(z) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\sin z}{z} = 0 \text{ iff } z = \pm \pi, \pm 2\pi, \dots$$

- Its max occurs at $\beta = \pi$;
 we evaluate : $F(\pi) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\int_{-\infty}^0 + \int_0^\pi \right) \sin \frac{u}{u}$
 $= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{\sin u}{u} du \approx 1.09$

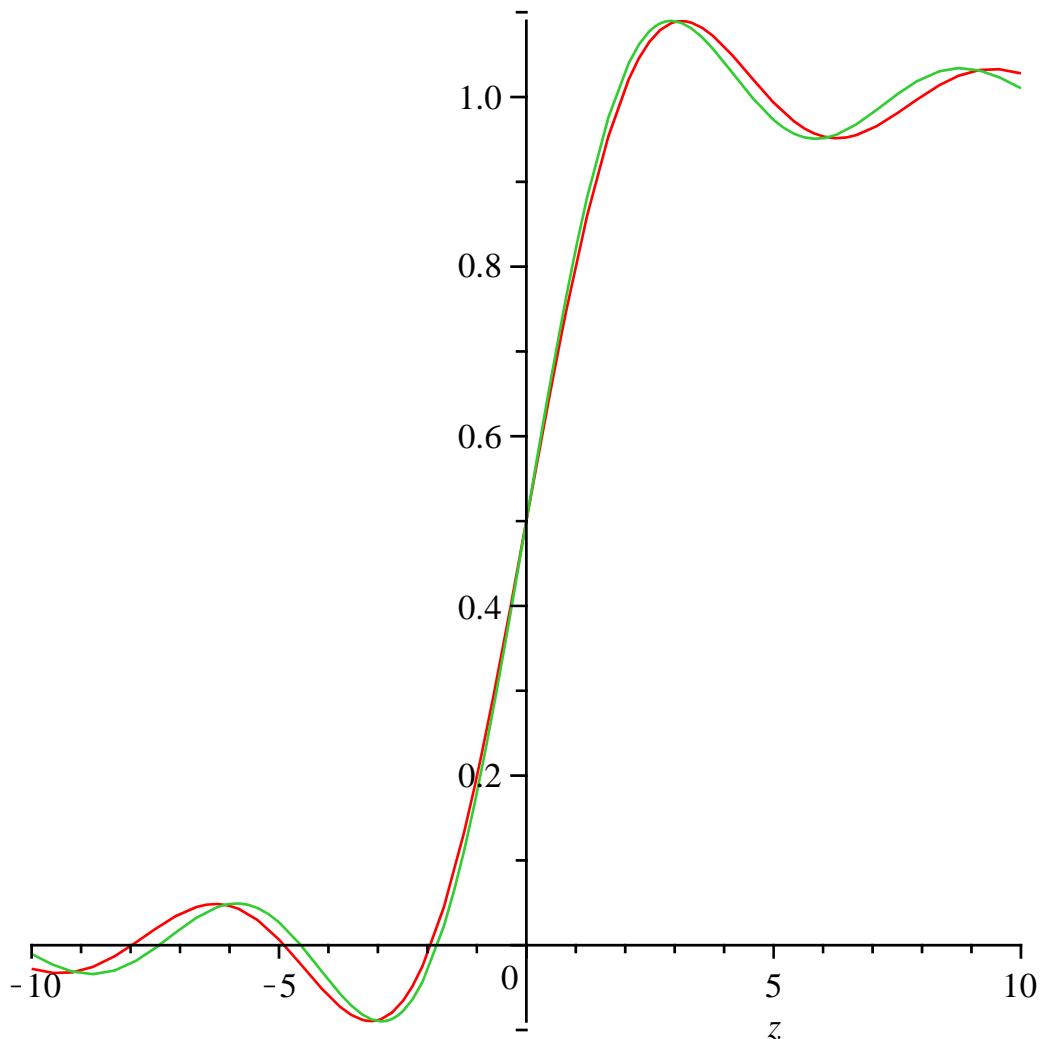
This explains Gibbs oscillations / phenomenon.

The following figure compares
 $F(\frac{t}{\varepsilon})$ vs. f_N [recall $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{N+\frac{1}{2}}$]
 for several values of N .
 Note the excellent agreement.

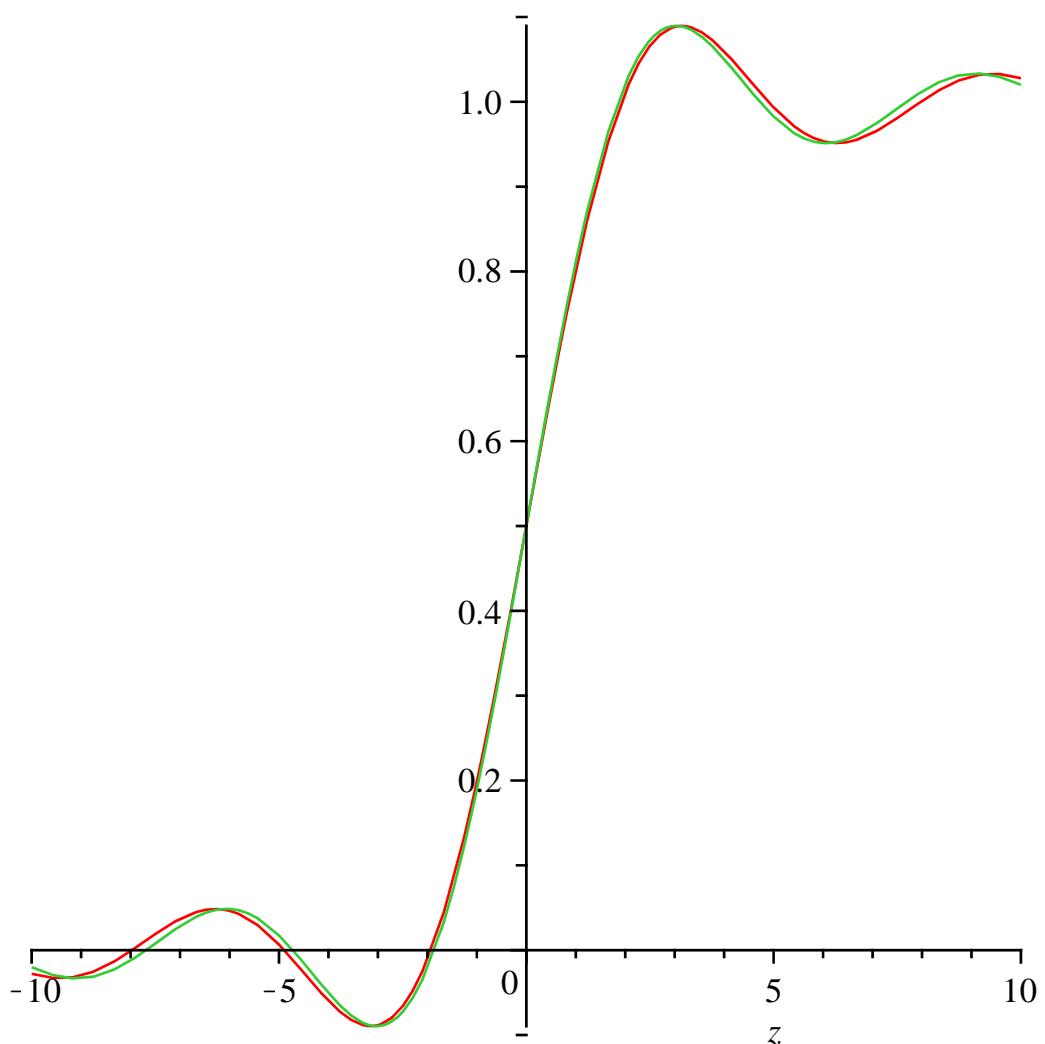
```

> F := 1/Pi*int(sin(u)/u,u=-infinity..z);
          1   π + Si(z)
F := ──────────────────
                  π
(1)
> plot([F,eval(f20,t=z/20.5)],z=-10..10);

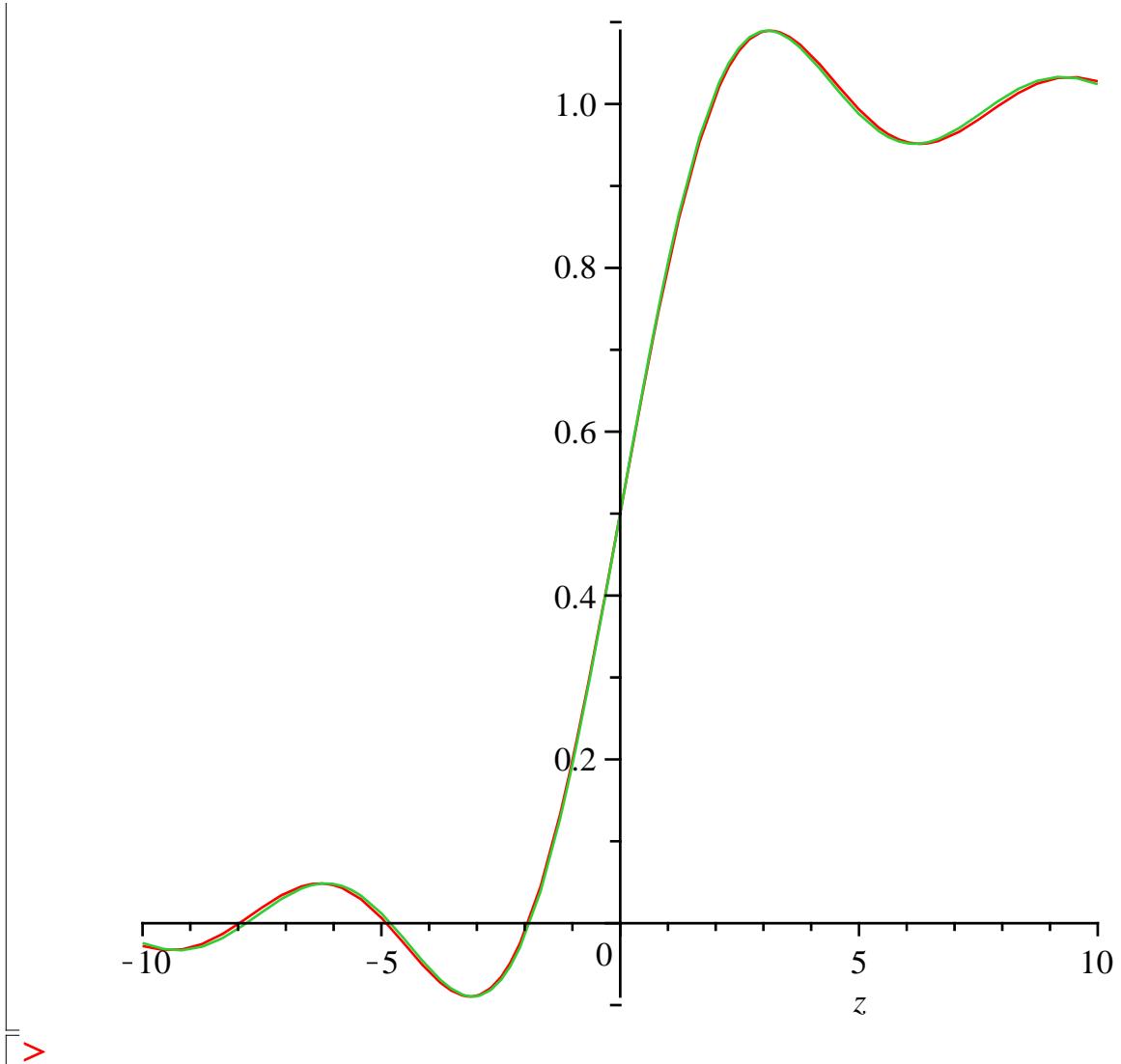
```



```
> plot([F,eval(f40,t=z/40.5)],z=-10..10);
```



```
> plot([F,eval(f80,t=z/80.5)],z=-10..10);
```



>