

Theorem 3.1 (Decomposition of function into even and odd parts). Any arbitrary function x can be uniquely represented as the sum of the form

$$x(t) = x_e(t) + x_o(t), \quad (3.7)$$

where x_e and x_o are even and odd, respectively, and given by

$$x_e(t) = \frac{1}{2} [x(t) + x(-t)] \quad \text{and} \quad (3.8)$$

$$x_o(t) = \frac{1}{2} [x(t) - x(-t)]. \quad (3.9)$$

As a matter of terminology, x_e is called the **even part** of x and is denoted $\text{Even}\{x\}$, and x_o is called the **odd part** of x and is denoted $\text{Odd}\{x\}$.

Partial Proof. From (3.8) and (3.9), we can easily confirm that $x_e + x_o = x$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} x_e(t) + x_o(t) &= \frac{1}{2} [x(t) + x(-t)] + \frac{1}{2} [x(t) - x(-t)] \quad \leftarrow \text{from the definition of } x_e \text{ and } x_o \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x(t) + \frac{1}{2} x(-t) + \frac{1}{2} x(t) - \frac{1}{2} x(-t) \quad \leftarrow x(-t) \text{ terms cancel} \\ &= x(t). \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we can easily verify that x_e is even and x_o is odd. From the definition of x_e in (3.8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} x_e(-t) &= \frac{1}{2} [x(-t) + x(-[-t])] \quad \leftarrow \text{substitute } -t \text{ for } t \text{ in definition of } x_e \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [x(t) + x(-t)] \\ &= x_e(t). \end{aligned}$$

even

Thus, x_e is even. From the definition of x_o in (3.9), we have

$$\begin{aligned} x_o(-t) &= \frac{1}{2} [x(-t) - x(-[-t])] \quad \leftarrow \text{substitute } -t \text{ for } t \text{ in definition of } x_o \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [-x(t) + x(-t)] \\ &= -x_o(t). \end{aligned}$$

odd

Thus, x_o is odd.