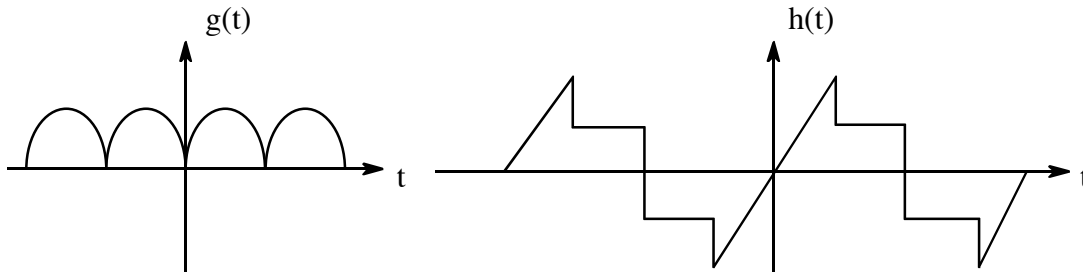


**EX:** Fill in the following table for the functions shown below.

	g(t)		h(t)	
	True	False	True	False
The function is odd				
The function is even				
The function has shift-flip symmetry				
The function has quarter-wave symmetry				
$a_v = 0$ (DC offset)				
All the $a_k$ are zero				
All $b_k$ are zero for even-numbered subscripts				



ANS:

	g(t)		h(t)	
	True	False	True	False
The function is odd		√1	√8	
The function is even	√2			√9
The function has shift-flip symmetry		√3		√10
The function has quarter-wave symmetry		√4		√11
$a_v = 0$ (DC offset)		√5	√12	
All the $a_k$ are zero		√6	√13	
All $b_k$ are zero for even-numbered subscripts	√7			√14

SOL'N: Answers are explained per superscript number.

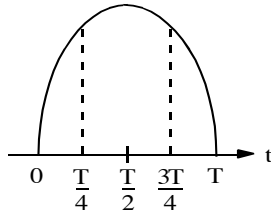
<sup>1</sup> $g(t)$  is not odd because it is not equal to the original  $g(t)$  after being flipped around the vertical and horizontal axes.

<sup>2</sup> $g(t)$  is even because it is symmetrical (and periodic, of course) around the vertical axis. Cosines are also even functions and so constitute the terms of Fourier series for even functions.

<sup>3</sup>Shift-flip symmetry means the function is equal to a copy of itself that is shifted one-half cycle to the right and flipped upside down. A cycle for  $g(t)$  is the width of one hump. If we shift  $g(t)$  to the right by half the width of a hump and then flip it upside down, then we obtain a function that is always negative. Thus, it is clearly not equal to the original  $g(t)$ .

<sup>4</sup>Quarter-wave symmetry means the function has shift-flip symmetry and is symmetric to the left and right around the point at  $T/4$  as well as to the left and right around the point at  $3T/4$ . (Imagine placing a vertical axis at  $T/4$  or  $3T/4$  and looking for mirror-image symmetry around that axis.) The period of  $g(t)$

is one lobe, and we do not have mirror-image symmetry around  $T/4$  and/or  $3T/4$ :



<sup>5</sup>We have a zero DC offset only if  $g(t)$  has equal area above and below the horizontal axis. We may think of  $g(t)$  as being made of butter that we smooth out until it is perfectly flat. If the flat height is nonzero, then the DC offset is not zero.

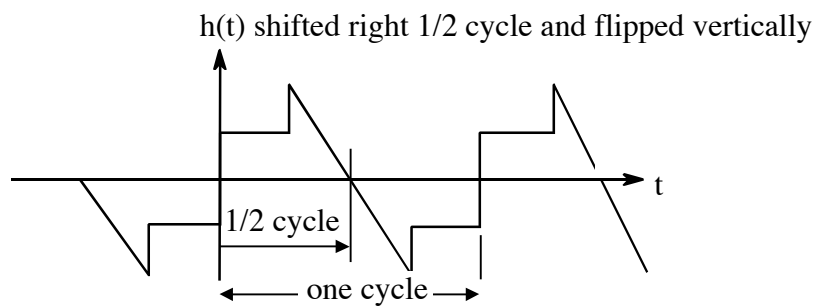
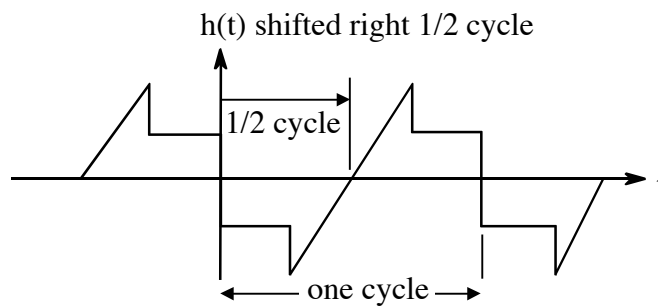
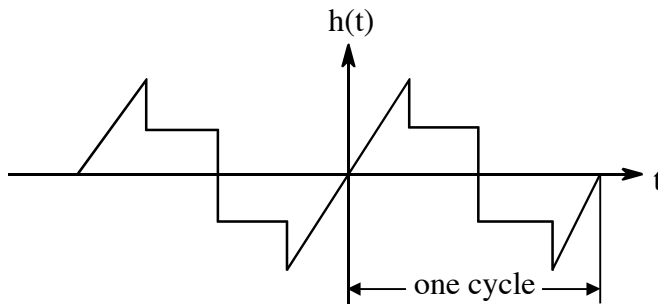
<sup>6</sup>The  $a_k$  coefficients are for cosine terms. Since  $g(t)$  is even (and nonzero) and cosine terms are even functions, we must have some cosine terms. (The sum of even functions is an even function.) Thus, the  $a_k$  are not all zero.

<sup>7</sup>The  $b_k$  coefficients for even-numbered subscripts are for sine terms with an even number of cycles per period of  $g(t)$ . Since  $g(t)$  is even, we have only cosine terms, and all  $a_k$  are zero whether  $k$  is even or odd.

<sup>8</sup> $h(t)$  is odd because is equal to the original  $g(t)$  after being flipped around the vertical and horizontal axes.

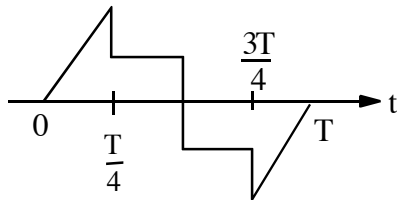
<sup>9</sup> $h(t)$  is not symmetrical around the vertical axis. Thus, it is not even.

<sup>10</sup>Shift-flip symmetry means the function is equal to a copy of itself that is shifted one-half cycle to the right and flipped upside down. The following figures show  $h(t)$  shifted right by  $1/2$  cycle and then flipped upside down:



The last function is not the same as the original  $h(t)$ . Thus  $h(t)$  does not have shift flip symmetry.

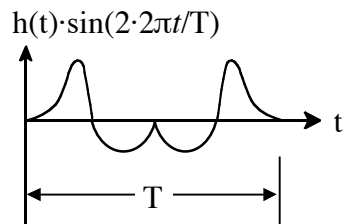
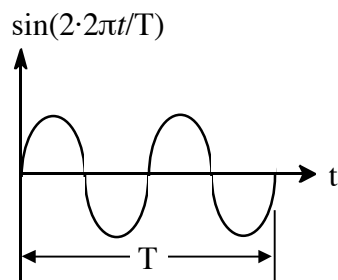
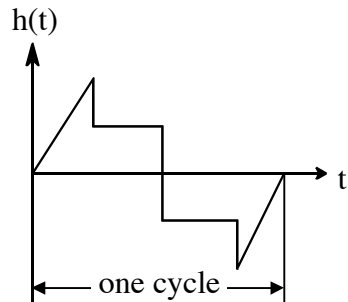
<sup>11</sup>Clearly,  $h(t)$  is not symmetrical about the quarter-wave points:



<sup>12</sup>We have a zero DC offset if  $h(t)$  has equal area above and below the horizontal axis. We may think of  $h(t)$  as being made of butter that we smooth out until it is perfectly flat. Clearly, the area under  $h(t)$  above the horizontal will exactly fill the area carved out by  $h(t)$  below the horizontal axis. Thus, the height after flattening is zero, and the DC offset is zero.

<sup>13</sup>The  $a_k$  coefficients are for cosine terms. Since  $h(t)$  is an odd function and sines are odd functions, we will have only sine terms. Thus, the  $a_k$  are all zero.

<sup>14</sup>The  $b_k$  coefficients for even-numbered subscripts are for sine terms with an even number of cycles per period of  $h(t)$ . The figures below show  $h(t)$ ,  $\sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$  where  $T$  is the period, and  $h(t)\sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$ . The coefficient,  $b_2$ , is equal to  $2/T$  times the area under (i.e., integral of) one period of  $h(t)\sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$ . This area appears to be zero, but the strange shapes prevent a definite conclusion from visual inspection alone.



Thus, we tackle the problem mathematically.

$$b_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T h(t) \sin\left(k2\pi \frac{t}{T}\right) dt$$

Exploiting symmetry around  $T/2$  for  $k$  even, we have

$$b_k = 2 \cdot \left[ \frac{2}{T} \int_0^{T/4} \frac{4t}{T} \sin\left(k2\pi \frac{t}{T}\right) dt + \frac{2}{T} \int_{T/4}^{T/2} \frac{1}{2} \sin\left(k2\pi \frac{t}{T}\right) dt \right].$$

From integral tables or a calculator, we have

$$\int x \sin(ax) dx = \frac{1}{a^2} \sin(ax) - \frac{x}{a} \cos(ax).$$

We may also assume that  $T = 1$  without affecting our answer.

$$b_k = 4 \left[ 4 \int_0^{1/4} t \sin(k2\pi t) dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_{1/4}^{1/2} \sin(k2\pi t) dt \right]$$

$$b_k = 16 \left[ \frac{1}{(k2\pi)^2} \sin(k2\pi t) - \frac{t}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi t) \right] \Bigg|_0^{1/4} - 2 \frac{1}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi t) \Bigg|_{1/4}^{1/2}$$

For  $k$  even and  $t = 0$ ,  $k2\pi t = 0$  and  $\sin(k2\pi t) = 0$ .

For  $k$  even and  $t = 1/4$ ,  $k2\pi t = \text{integer} \cdot \pi$  and  $\sin(k2\pi t) = 0$ .

For  $t = 0$ ,  $t \cdot \cos(k2\pi t) = 0$ .

Thus, we have

$$b_k = 16 \left[ -\frac{t}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi t) \right] \Bigg|_0^{1/4} - 2 \frac{1}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi t) \Bigg|_{1/4}^{1/2}$$

$$b_k = -\frac{4}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi/4) - 2 \frac{1}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi/2) + 2 \frac{1}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi/4)$$

$$b_k = -\frac{2}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi/4) - 2 \frac{1}{k2\pi} \cos(k2\pi/2)$$

For  $k = 2$ , we have

$$b_2 = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \cos(\pi) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \cos(2\pi) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} (-1 + 1) = 0$$

So it seems that  $b_k = 0$  might be true for all  $k$  even. Considering  $k = 4$ , however, we have

$$b_4 = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \cos(2\pi) - \frac{1}{4\pi} \cos(4\pi) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} (1 + 1) = -\frac{1}{2\pi}.$$

It follows that  $b_4$  is not zero, and the  $b_k$  for  $k$  even are not all zero. Note that this problem exhibited an unusual symmetry that made the first even numbered  $b$  coefficient zero. Sometimes, the math is necessary. The standard types of symmetry and the pictures that go with them, however, tend to give results that are more obvious.

Note: In this problem, we could actually determine that  $b_2$  is zero by observing that the initial sloped part of  $h(t)$  is symmetric around its center point located at  $T/8$ . The first hump in  $\sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$  is also symmetric around  $T/8$ . The height of  $h(t)$  at  $T/8$  is equal to the height of the flat segment that follows. As we move to the left and right of  $T/8$ , we will multiply  $\sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$  by values that are equally above and below the height of  $h(t)$  at  $T/8$ . Thus, when we compute the integral of (i.e., area under)  $h(t) \cdot \sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$  from 0 to  $T/4$ , we will have exactly the same value as we have for the integral of  $h(T/8) \cdot \sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$  from 0 to  $T/4$ .

In other words, we get the same answer as we would get if we used a constant value for  $h(t)$ , and that constant value is exactly the height of the flat segment that follows the initial sloped part of  $h(t)$ . By symmetry, we conclude that we may replace the entire  $h(t)$  by the constant value  $h(T/8)$ . Now  $b_2$  is seen to be proportional to the integral of a constant times  $\sin(2 \cdot 2\pi t/T)$ . The integral of any sinusoid of an integer number of cycles is zero, however, so we conclude that  $b_2$  is zero.