

6. Fourier Series:

* Every "well-behaved" periodic function (think: arbitrary sound wave) can be decomposed into sine & cosine waves.

We'll learn how to do this. It will be necessary for the study of partial differential equations. (e.g., $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(x,t) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(x,t)$).

Motivation: \mathbb{R}^n is a set of vectors

We can add & subtract vectors, and we know how to

"measure" their lengths: $\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}}$.

e.g., $\|(4,3)\| = \sqrt{4^2 + 3^2} = 5$.

We can also project a vector onto a unit vector using the dot product.

Example: let $\vec{v} = (4,3)$ and let $\vec{e}_1 = (1,0)$, $\vec{e}_2 = (0,1)$ "unit basis vectors"

Q: How long is \vec{v} in the x-direction?

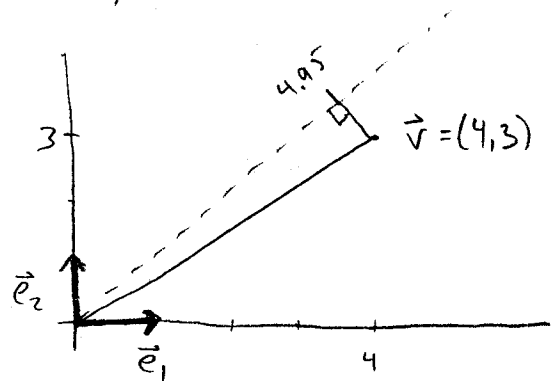
A: $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_1 = (4,3) \cdot (1,0) = 4$.

Q: How long is \vec{v} in the y-direction?

A: $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_2 = (4,3) \cdot (0,1) = 3$

Q: How long is \vec{v} in the "northeast" or $(1,1)$ -direction?

A: $\vec{v} \cdot \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) = (4,3) \cdot \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right) = \frac{7\sqrt{2}}{2} \approx 4.95$.



↖ unit vector in the "(1,1)-direction"

[2]

The unit basis vectors $\{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$ of \mathbb{R}^n have some nice properties:

(i) $\|\vec{e}_i\| = \sqrt{\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{e}_i} = 1$ (\vec{e}_i has length 1)

(ii) If $i \neq j$, then $\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{e}_j = 0$ (\vec{e}_i & \vec{e}_j are orthogonal (perpendicular)).

Together, we can summarize this by $\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{e}_j = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$.

Def: A set of vectors is orthonormal if they satisfy conditions

(i) & (ii) above.

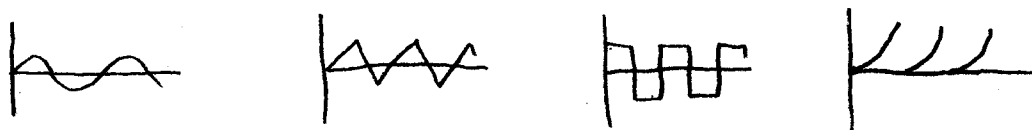
Easy fact: $\{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$ is an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{R}^n

Because of this, we can decompose any vector in \mathbb{R}^n into components, by projecting onto the basis vectors.

e.g., $\vec{v} = (5, 4, 3) = 5\vec{e}_1 + 4\vec{e}_2 + 3\vec{e}_3 = (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_1)\vec{e}_1 + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_2)\vec{e}_2 + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_3)\vec{e}_3$.

This is precisely the technique that we'll use to decompose a periodic function into sine & cosine waves!

* Let $\text{Per}_{2\pi}$ be the set of 2π -periodic piecewise continuous functions.

e.g.,  etc.

We can think of these functions as vectors.

We can add & subtract these "vectors" & multiply them by scalars.

We need to define a "dot product," (called an inner product)

so we can measure their lengths.

Define $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle := \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)g(x) dx$

Remark: $\langle f, g \rangle$ is just a preferred notation for " $f \cdot g$."

This defines "length"; $\|\vec{v}\|^2 = \langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle$ (as in \mathbb{R}^n)

$$\text{so } \|f(x)\|^2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (f(x))^2 dx$$

* Key fact: The set $\mathcal{B}_{2\pi} = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \cos x, \cos 2x, \cos 3x, \dots \right. \\ \left. \sin x, \sin 2x, \sin 3x, \dots \right\}$

is an orthonormal basis for $\text{Per}_{2\pi}$, given our definition of length!

$$\text{i.e., } \langle \cos nx, \cos mx \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \cos mx dx = \begin{cases} 1 & n=m \\ 0 & n \neq m \end{cases}$$

$$\langle \sin nx, \sin mx \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \sin mx dx = \begin{cases} 1 & n=m \\ 0 & n \neq m \end{cases}$$

$$\langle \cos nx, \sin mx \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \sin mx dx = 0.$$

Now, we automatically know how to decompose a periodic function into sines & cosines - just "project" onto the basis vectors in $\mathcal{B}_{2\pi}$.

Let $f(x)$ be a piecewise continuous 2π -periodic function.

We can write
$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$$

a_n = "length of $f(x)$ in the $(\cos nx)$ -direction"

b_n = "length of $f(x)$ in the $(\sin nx)$ -direction."

and
$$a_n = \langle f(x), \cos nx \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx$$

$$b_n = \langle f(x), \sin nx \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx$$

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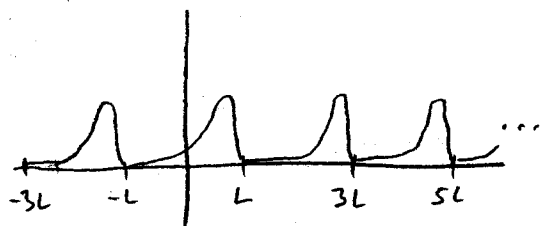
Note: This formula works for a_0 too: $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx$.

Remark: This easily generalizes to functions of period $2L$ (not just 2π):

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

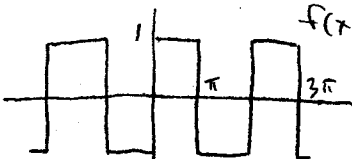
$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$



[Show demo: www.falstad.com/fourier]

However, the math is messier for $L \neq \pi$, so we'll just stick with 2π -periodic functions in this class.

Example 1: Square wave: 

Find the Fourier series of $f(x)$:

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 -1 dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} 1 dx = 0$$

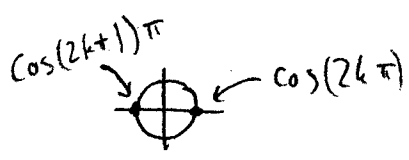
$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 -1 \cos nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} 1 \cos nx dx$$

$$= -\frac{1}{n\pi} \sin nx \Big|_{-\pi}^0 + \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin nx \Big|_0^{\pi} = 0$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 -1 \sin nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} 1 \sin nx dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{n\pi} \cos nx \Big|_{-\pi}^0 - \frac{1}{n\pi} \cos nx \Big|_0^{\pi} = \frac{1}{n\pi} (1 - \cos n\pi) - \frac{1}{n\pi} (\cos n\pi - 1)$$

$$= \frac{2}{n\pi} (1 - \cos n\pi)$$

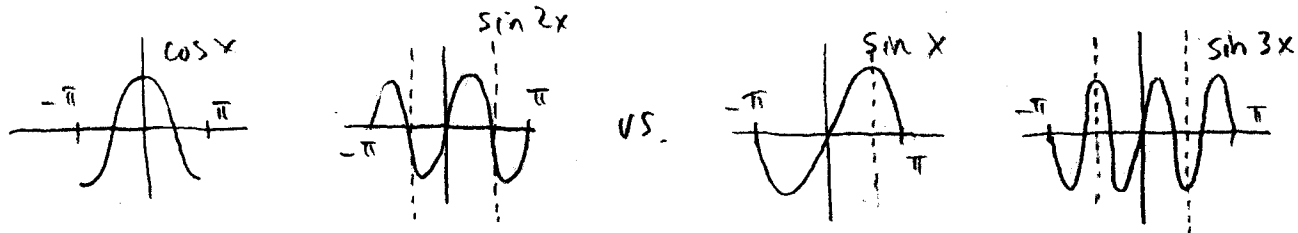


Note: $\cos n\pi = (-1)^n$

Therefore, $b_n = \frac{2}{n\pi} (1 - (-1)^n) = \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ even} \\ \frac{4}{n\pi} & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$

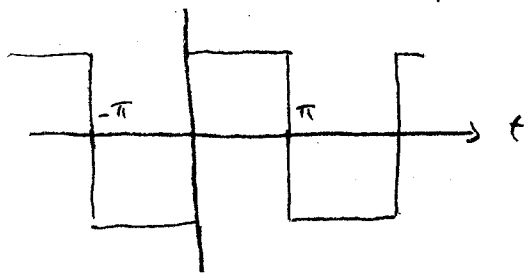
i.e., $f(x) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sin x + \frac{4}{3\pi} \sin 3x + \frac{4}{5\pi} \sin 5x + \frac{4}{7\pi} \sin 7x + \dots$

Note: All cosine terms, and "even-index" sine terms are zero. (Why?)

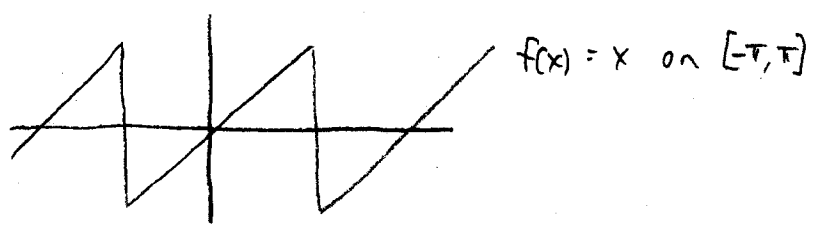


Look at the "symmetries" of $f(x)$:

This "looks" like a sine wave, and "more like" $\sin x, \sin 3x,$ etc. than a $\sin 2x, \sin 4x,$ etc. function.



Example 2: Sawtooth wave:



$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \, dx = 0 \quad (\text{By symmetry; area under the curve})$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx$$

Let $u = x$ $v = \frac{1}{n} \sin nx$
 $du = dx$ $dv = \cos nx \, dx$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{n} x \sin nx \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \frac{1}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \, dx \right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{n\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{n^2\pi} \cos nx \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{1}{n^2\pi} [\cos(\pi x) - \cos(-\pi x)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2\pi} [\cos \pi x - \cos n\pi] = 0.$$

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$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx$$

$$\text{let } u = x \quad v = -\frac{1}{n} \cos nx \\ du = dx \quad dv = \sin nx \, dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\frac{1}{n} x \cos nx \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \frac{1}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \, dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left(-\frac{\pi}{n} \cos n\pi \right) - \left(\frac{\pi}{n} \cos n\pi \right) + \frac{1}{n^2} \sin nx \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\frac{2\pi}{n} \cos(n\pi) \right] = -\frac{2}{n} \cos n\pi = -\frac{2}{n} (-1)^n = \frac{2}{n} (-1)^{n+1} = \begin{cases} -2/n & n \text{ even} \\ 2/n & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Thus, } f(x) = 2 \sin x - \frac{2}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{2}{3} \sin 3x - \frac{2}{4} \sin 4x + \frac{2}{5} \sin 5x + \dots$$

$$= 2 \sin x - \sin 2x + \frac{2}{3} \sin 3x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 4x + \frac{2}{5} \sin 5x + \dots$$

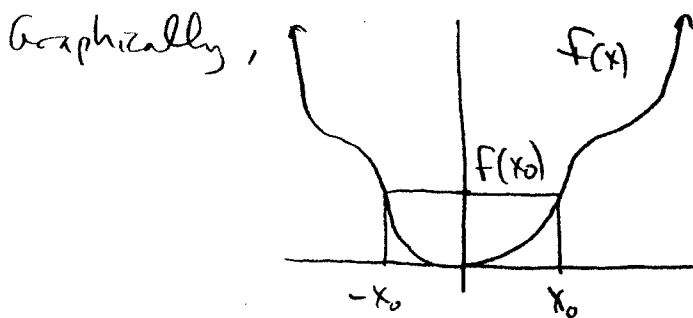
Think: How does this relate to music, sound waves, & harmonics?

Exploiting symmetry:

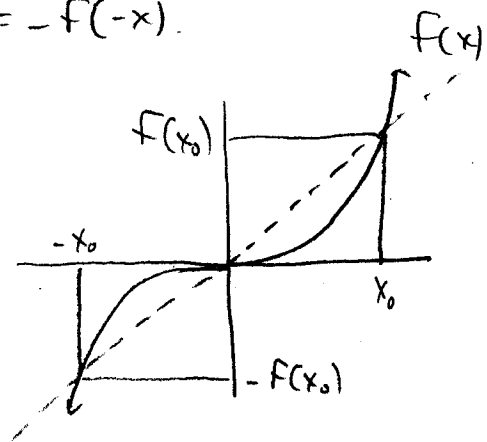
Why are many of the a_n 's & b_n 's zero?

Def: • $f(x)$ is an even function if $f(x) = f(-x)$

• $f(x)$ is an odd function if $f(x) = -f(-x)$.



$f(x)$ even \Leftrightarrow symmetric about the y-axis.



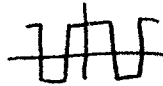
$f(x)$ odd \Leftrightarrow symmetric about the origin.

Why we care:

- If $f(x)$ is even, then $\int_{-L}^L f(x) dx = 2 \int_0^L f(x) dx$
 - If $f(x)$ is odd, then $\int_{-L}^L f(x) dx = 0$.
- } Look at the area under the curve to see why!

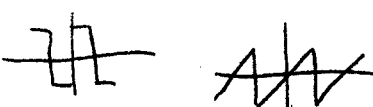
- Basic facts:
- If f & g are even, then $f(x)g(x)$ is even.
 - If f & g are odd, then $f(x)g(x)$ is even.
 - If f is even & g is odd, then $f(x)g(x)$ is odd.

Examples:

- Even functions: $8, x^2, 3x^6 + x^2 - 5, |x|$, 

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots = \frac{e^{ix} + e^{-ix}}{2}$$

$$\cosh x = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}$$

- Odd functions: $2x, 8x^3 - 5x$, 

$$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots = \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2i}$$

$$\sinh x = x + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} + \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2}$$

- Neither: $x^2 - 3x + 2, x^5 + x^3 + x + 1, e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots$

Off-hand remarks: $* \cos x = \cosh ix$

$$* i \sin x = \sinh ix$$

$$* e^x = \cosh x + \sinh x = \cos x + i \sin x$$

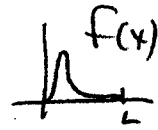
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Key point:

- If $f(x)$ is even, then $f(x) \cos nx$ is even $\Rightarrow a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx$
and $f(x) \sin nx$ is odd $\Rightarrow b_n = 0$ (all n)
- If $f(x)$ is odd, then $f(x) \cos nx$ is odd $\Rightarrow a_n = 0$ (all n)
and $f(x) \sin nx$ is even $\Rightarrow b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx$

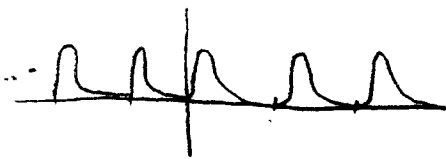
Fourier sine & cosine series

Idea: Consider a function defined on $[0, L]$

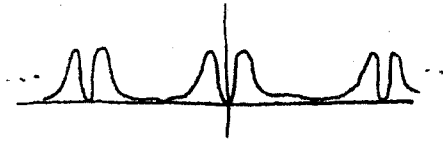


Write $f(x)$ as a Fourier series.

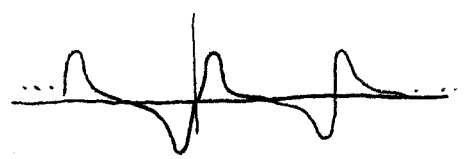
First, we need to make $f(x)$ periodic.



A naive extension.



The even extension



The odd extension.

Def: The Fourier cosine series of $f(x)$ is the Fourier series of the even extension of $f(x)$

$$\begin{cases} a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ b_n = 0 \end{cases}$$

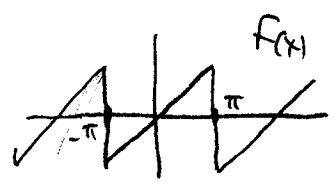
Def: The Fourier sine series of $f(x)$ is the Fourier series of the odd extension of $f(x)$.

$$\begin{cases} a_n = 0 \\ b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \end{cases}$$

Example 3: let $f(x) = x$ on $[0, \pi]$

Compute the Fourier sine & cosine series of $f(x)$.

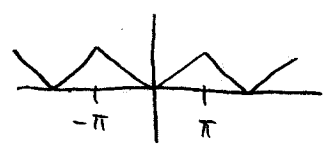
Fourier sine series: Odd extension:



This was Example 2, on p. 5-6.

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx, \quad b_n = \begin{cases} -2/n\pi & n \text{ even} \\ 2/n\pi & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

Fourier cosine series: Even extension:



$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx$$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \, dx = \frac{x^2}{\pi} \Big|_0^{\pi} = \pi$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{x}{n} \sin nx \Big|_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1}{n} \sin nx \, dx \right]$$

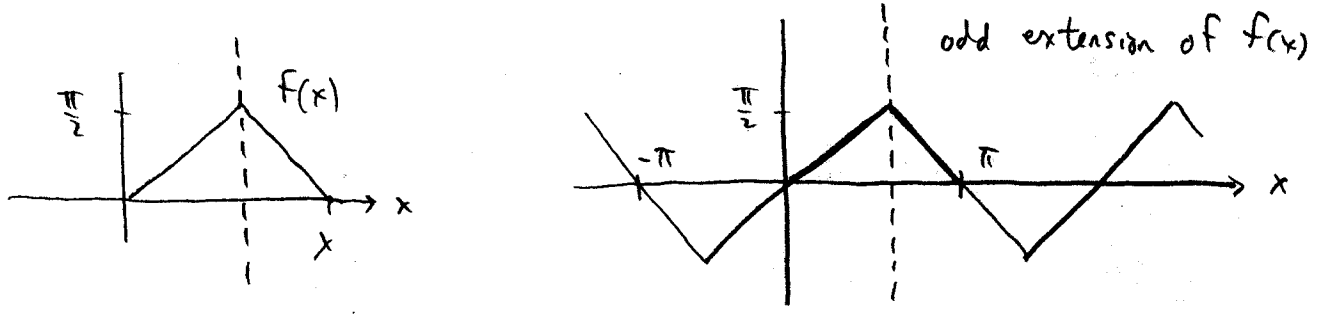
$$\begin{aligned} \text{let } u=x \quad v = \frac{1}{n} \sin nx \\ du = dx \quad dv = \cos nx \, dx \end{aligned} \quad = \frac{2}{\pi n^2} \cos nx \Big|_0^{\pi} = \frac{2}{n^2 \pi} [\cos n\pi - 1]$$
$$= \frac{2}{\pi n^2} [(-1)^n - 1] = \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ even} \\ -\frac{4}{\pi n^2} & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Thus, } f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \cos x - \frac{4}{9\pi} \cos 3x - \frac{4}{25\pi} \cos 5x - \frac{4}{49\pi} \cos 7x - \dots$$

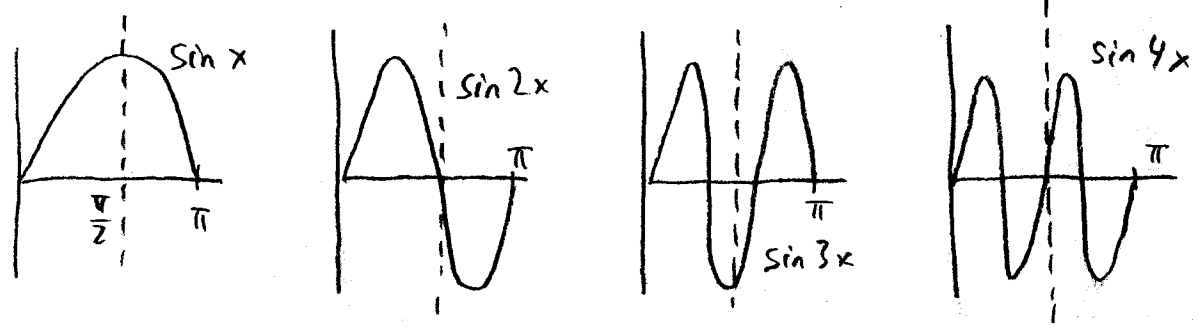
Example 4: let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 \leq x < \pi/2 \\ \pi-x & \pi/2 \leq x < \pi \end{cases}$

Compute the Fourier sine series of $f(x)$.

[10]



Observe the symmetry about the line $x = \pi/2$.



- * $\sin nx$ has odd symmetry about the line $x = \pi/2$ if n is even
- * $\sin nx$ has even symmetry about the line $x = \pi/2$ if n is odd.

Conclusion: If n is even, then $b_n = 0$.

If n is odd, then $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} f(x) \sin nx \, dx$

$$= \frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} x \sin nx \, dx = \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{x}{n} \cos nx \Big|_0^{\pi/2} + \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{n} \cos nx \, dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{-\pi}{2\pi} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) - 0 + \frac{1}{n^2} \sin nx \Big|_0^{\pi/2} \right] \quad n \text{ odd} \Rightarrow \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) = 0$$

$$= \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{n^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) \right]$$

$\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) = \begin{cases} 0 & n=4k \\ 1 & n=4k+1 \\ 0 & n=4k+2 \\ -1 & n=4k+3 \end{cases}$

Thus, $b_n = \begin{cases} 0 & n=4k \\ 4/n^2\pi & n=4k+1 \\ 0 & n=4k+2 \\ -4/n^2\pi & n=4k+3 \end{cases}$

So, $f(x) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sin x - \frac{4}{9\pi} \sin 3x + \frac{4}{25\pi} \sin 5x - \frac{4}{49\pi} \sin 7x + \dots$

Complex form of Fourier series

Recall: $\mathcal{B}_1 = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \cos x, \cos 2x, \cos 3x, \dots \right\}$ is a basis for $\text{Per}_{2\pi}$

Fact: $\mathcal{B}_2 = \left\{ 1, e^{-ix}, e^{-2ix}, e^{-3ix}, \dots \right\}$ is also a basis for $\text{Per}_{2\pi}$.

and is orthonormal if $\langle f, g \rangle := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)g(x) dx$.

Therefore, if $f(x)$ is 2π -periodic, we can write $f(x)$ as

$$f(x) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{-inx} = c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (c_n e^{-inx} + c_{-n} e^{inx})$$

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx, \quad c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx$$

This is the complex form of the Fourier series of $f(x)$.

Recall: $\cos nx = \frac{1}{2}(e^{inx} + e^{-inx})$, $\sin nx = \frac{1}{2i}(e^{inx} - e^{-inx})$

$$e^{inx} = \cos nx + i \sin nx, \quad e^{-inx} = \cos nx - i \sin nx$$

Therefore,
$$c_n = \frac{a_n - ib_n}{2}, \quad c_{-n} = \frac{a_n + ib_n}{2}$$

and
$$a_n = c_n + c_{-n} \quad b_n = i(c_n - c_{-n})$$

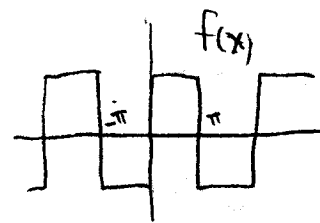
Note: c_0 is the constant term in the complex version of the Fourier series.

$a_0 = 2c_0 \Rightarrow \frac{a_0}{2}$ is the const. term in the real version.

Remark: The const. term c_0 (or $\frac{a_0}{2}$) is the average value of $f(x)$ (why?)

[12]

Example 1: Compute the complex Fourier series of



$c_0 = 0$ (average value of $f(x)$).

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 -e^{-inx} dx + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{-inx} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{1}{in} e^{-inx} \right]_{-\pi}^0 + \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[-\frac{1}{in} e^{-inx} \right]_0^{\pi}$$



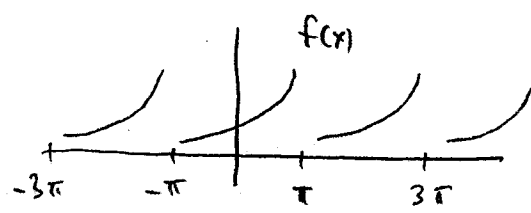
$$= \frac{1}{2\pi in} (1 - e^{in\pi} - e^{-in\pi} + 1)$$

Note: $e^{-in\pi} = e^{in\pi} = (-1)^n = (-1)^{-n}$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{\pi in} (1 - (-1)^n)} = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi in} & n \text{ odd} \\ 0 & n \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

Thus,
$$f(x) = \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi in} (1 - (-1)^n) e^{-inx} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi in} (1 - (-1)^n) (e^{-inx} - e^{inx})$$

Example 2: Compute the complex Fourier series of the 2π -periodic extension of e^x (defined on $[-\pi, \pi]$).



$$c_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^x dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^x \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2\pi} (e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi})}$$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^x e^{-inx} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{(1-in)x} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi(1-in)} e^{(1-in)x} \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi(1-in)} [e^{(1-in)\pi} - e^{-(1-in)\pi}] = \frac{e^{in\pi}}{2\pi(1-in)} [e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi}] = \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi(1-in)} [e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi}]$$

Note: $\frac{1}{1-in} = \frac{1}{1-in} \frac{1+in}{1+in} = \frac{1+in}{1+n^2} \Rightarrow$

$$c_n = \boxed{\frac{(-1)^n (e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi})}{2\pi(1+n^2)} (1+in)}$$

Now, derive the real Fourier coefficients:

$$a_n = C_n + C_{-n} = \frac{(-1)^n (e^\pi - e^{-\pi})}{\pi (1+n^2)}$$

$$b_n = i(C_n - C_{-n}) = \frac{-(-1)^n n (e^\pi - e^{-\pi})}{\pi (1+n^2)}$$

Parseval's identity: If $f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$, then

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (f(x))^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} a_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) \quad [\text{Note: this is just } \langle f(x), f(x) \rangle!]$$

Proof:
$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (f(x))^2 dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \underbrace{\left(\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx \right)}_{f(x)} dx$$

$$= \frac{a_0}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} a_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a_n \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx}_{a_n} + b_n \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx}_{b_n} \right)$$

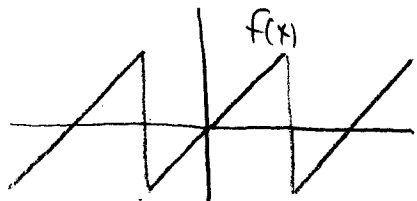
$$= \frac{1}{2} a_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2)$$

Neat application: Compute $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = 1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{25} + \dots$

Let $f(x) = x$ on $[-\pi, \pi]$. $a_n = 0$ (since $f(x)$ is odd)

$$b_n = \frac{-2}{n} (-1)^n \quad (\text{Example 2, p. 5-6})$$

$$\Rightarrow b_n^2 = \frac{4}{n^2}$$



Apply Parseval's identity: $\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (f(x))^2 dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{2}{3} \pi^2$ (LHS)

RHS: $\frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^2 + b_n^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n^2}$

Equate LHS & RHS: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n^2} = \frac{2\pi^2}{3} \Rightarrow$

$$\boxed{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6}}$$