

Topic 4 – Fourier Series

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

Today

- Introduction to Fourier analysis

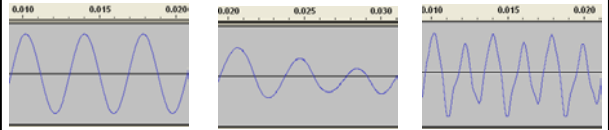
Fourier Series

Music is more than just pitch and amplitude.....it's also about timbre.

The richness of a sound or note produced by a musical instrument is described in terms of a sum of a number of distinct frequencies called harmonics. The lowest frequency is called the fundamental frequency and the pitch it produces is used to name the note.

The balance of the amplitudes of the different harmonic frequencies is responsible for the characteristic sound of each instrument.

Each instrument below is playing a single note middle C (261Hz)



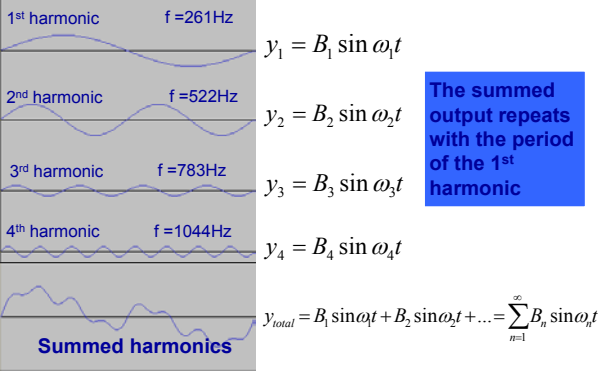
Signal generator

Classical guitar

Piano

What do you think is best instrument to demonstrate timbre? **Bagpipes**

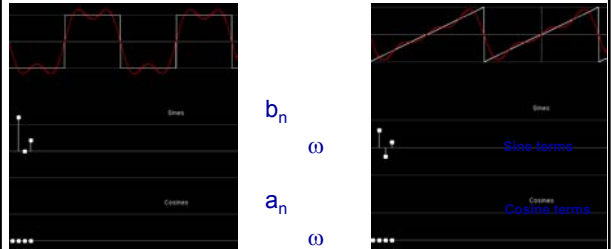
A single note will contain different fractions of each harmonic



Fourier Series

Fourier made the bold claim that any repeating pattern could therefore be represented by a summed series of cosine and sine terms with a term a_n added to the sum to adjust the baseline if needed.

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



<http://www.univie.ac.at/future/media/mce/galerie/fourier/fourier.html>

<http://www.falstad.com/fourier/>

Fourier Series

Fourier said $f(t) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \omega_n t + b_n \sin \omega_n t$

The pattern will repeat with period of the (n = 1) 1st harmonic frequency

$\omega = \omega_1$ so since $\omega_n = n\omega$ and $\omega = 2\pi f$ and $T = \frac{1}{f}$, then $\omega_n = \frac{2n\pi}{T}$

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

where T is the period of the repeating shape

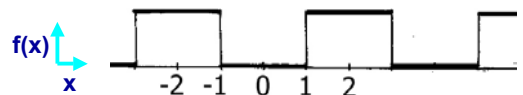
Fourier Series

Fourier said $f(t) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi t}{T} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi t}{T}$

Or if the pattern repeats with period L where L is a distance

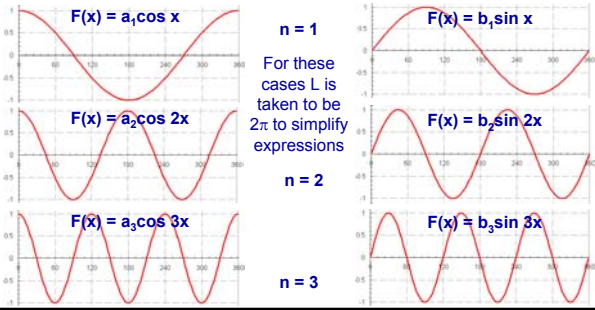
we can write $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L}$

Here period of the shape is L = 4



Fourier Series

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

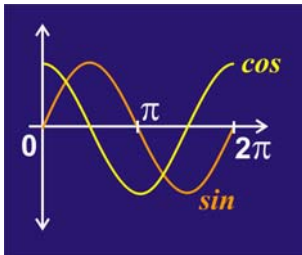


Need to find a_0 , a_n and b_n

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

... some background work required ...

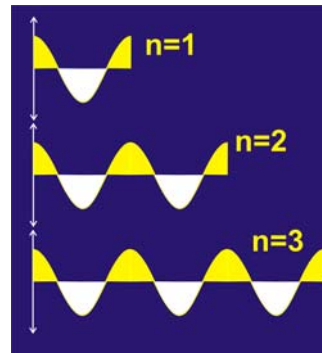
Integrating over 2π



$$\int_0^{2\pi} \cos x \, dx = 0$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sin x \, dx = 0$$

Integrating over $2\pi n$



$$\int_0^{2\pi} \cos nx \, dx = 0 \text{ for all } n$$

Useful integrals

Try these integrals using the hints provided

$$\cos^2 x = \frac{1}{2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\cos A \cos B = \frac{1}{2} \cos(A-B) + \frac{1}{2} \cos(A+B)$$

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

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \cos nx \cos mx \, dx = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} \{ \cos(n-m)x \} dx + \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} \{ \cos(n+m)x \} dx$$

$$n \neq m \quad = \left[\frac{\sin(n-m)x}{2(n-m)} \right]_0^{2\pi} + \left[\frac{\sin(n+m)x}{2(n+m)} \right]_0^{2\pi} = 0$$

Useful Integrals summary

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sin nx \, dx = 0 \text{ for all } n \quad \int_0^{2\pi} \cos nx \, dx = 0 \text{ for all } n \quad \text{Previous page}$$

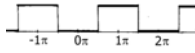
$$\int_0^{2\pi} \cos nx \cos mx \, dx = \int_0^{2\pi} \sin nx \sin mx \, dx = 0 \text{ for all } m \neq n \quad \text{Previous page}$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^2 nx \, dx = \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 nx \, dx = \pi \text{ for all } n \quad \text{Previous page}$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sin nx \cos mx \, dx = 0 \text{ for all } m \text{ and } n \quad \text{Remember odd x even function}$$

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series... a_0

Remember how the Fourier series can be written like this for a period L

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


For simplicity let's make $L = 2\pi$ so we can write...

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

Take this equation and integrate both sides over a period

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2}a_0 \int_0^{2\pi} dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[a_n \int_0^{2\pi} \cos nx dx + b_n \int_0^{2\pi} \sin nx dx \right]$$

Clearly on the RHS the only non-zero term is the a_0 term

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2}a_0 \int_0^{2\pi} dx = \frac{1}{2}a_0(2\pi - 0) = \pi a_0$$

Hence we find $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx$

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series... a_n

Again let $L = 2\pi$ so we can write... $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$

This time multiply both sides by $\cos(x)$ and integrate over a period

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos x dx = \frac{1}{2}a_0 \int_0^{2\pi} \cos x dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[a_n \int_0^{2\pi} \cos nx \cos x dx + b_n \int_0^{2\pi} \sin nx \cos x dx \right]$$

On RHS, only the a_1 term survives as it is only term where $n=1$ (Orthogonality)

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos x dx = a_1 \int_0^{2\pi} \cos x \cos x dx = a_1 \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 x dx = a_1 \pi$$

Hence we find $a_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos x dx$

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series... a_n

How to find all coefficients a_n is clear.

To find a general expression multiply both sides of the Fourier series by $\cos(mx)$, then integrate over a period:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx = \frac{1}{2}a_0 \int_0^{2\pi} \cos mx dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[a_n \int_0^{2\pi} \cos nx \cos mx dx + b_n \int_0^{2\pi} \sin nx \cos mx dx \right]$$

On the RHS, only the $m = n$ term survives the integration

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx = a_m \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 mx dx = a_m \pi$$

$$a_m = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx$$

Coefficients of the Fourier Series...

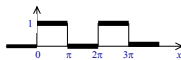
In a similar way, multiplying both sides of the Fourier series by $\sin(mx)$, then integrating over a period we get:

$$b_m = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin mx dx$$

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

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Finding the coefficients of the Fourier Series



Step 1.

Write down the function $f(x)$ in terms of x .
What is the period?

Step 2.

Use equation to find a_0 ?

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx$$

Step 3.

Use equation to find a_n ?

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

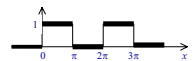
Step 4.

Use equation to find b_n ?

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Example 4.1 - page 35

Find Fourier series to represent this repeat pattern.



1. Write down the function $f(x)$ in terms of x . What is period?

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < x < \pi \\ 0 & \pi < x < 2\pi \end{cases} \quad \text{Period is } 2\pi$$

2. Use equation to find a_0 ?

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_0^{\pi} 1 dx + \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} 0 dx \right] = \frac{1}{\pi} [x]_0^{\pi} = 1$$

3. Use equation to find a_n ?

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (1) \cos nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (0) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} = 0$$

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series

Find Fourier series to represent this repeat pattern.



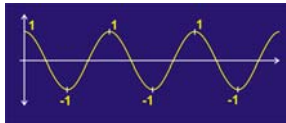
4. Use equation to find b_n ?

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (1) \sin nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (0) \sin nx \, dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin nx \, dx = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi}$$

$$b_n = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\cos n\pi}{n} - \frac{\cos 0}{n} \right) = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\cos n\pi}{n} - \frac{1}{n} \right)$$

$$b_n = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left(\frac{(-1)^n}{n} - \frac{1}{n} \right)$$



Step 5. Write out values of b_n for $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots$

$$a_0 = 1$$

$$a_n = 0$$

$$b_n = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left(\frac{(-1)^n}{n} - \frac{1}{n} \right)$$

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(1 - \frac{(-1)}{1} \right) = \frac{2}{\pi}$$

$$b_2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{(-1)}{2} \right) = 0$$

$$b_3 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{(-1)}{3} \right) = \frac{2}{3\pi}$$

$$b_4 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{(-1)}{4} \right) = 0$$

$$b_5 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{(-1)}{5} \right) = \frac{2}{5\pi}$$

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(1 - \frac{(-1)}{1} \right) = \frac{2}{\pi}$$

$$b_2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{(-1)}{2} \right) = 0$$

$$b_3 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{(-1)}{3} \right) = \frac{2}{3\pi}$$

$$b_4 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{(-1)}{4} \right) = 0$$

$$b_5 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{(-1)}{5} \right) = \frac{2}{5\pi}$$

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

Step 6. Write out Fourier series

With period $L = 2\pi$

a_n, b_n in the generic form replaced with values for our example

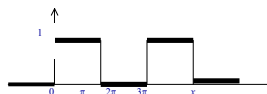
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{2\pi} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{2\pi}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \sin x + \frac{2}{3\pi} \sin 3x + \frac{2}{5\pi} \sin 5x + \dots$$

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series

So what does the Fourier series look like if we only use first few terms?

Use **FourierChecker** at



Fourier Series - QUIZ

1. What is $1 + (-1)^n$ when $n = 3$? $1 + (-1)^3 = 0$

2. What is $1 + (-1)^n$ when $n = 52$? $1 + (-1)^{52} = 2$

3. What is $1 + (\cos 2\pi)$ when $n = 1$? $1 + (1) = 2$

4. What is $1 + (\cos 2\pi)$ when $n = 17$? $1 + (1) = 2$

5. What is $1 + (\cos 2\pi)$ when $n = 52$? $1 + (1) = 2$

6. What is $1 + (\cos \pi)$ when $n = 1$? $1 + (\cos \pi) = 1 + (-1) = 0$

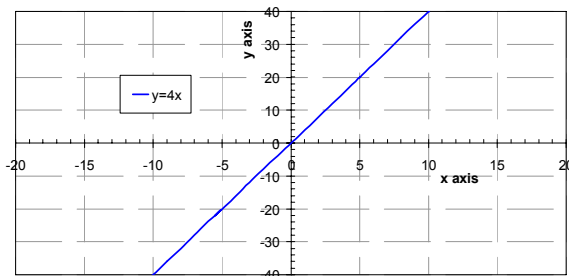
7. What is $1 + (\cos \pi)$ when $n = 4$? $1 + (\cos 4\pi) = 1 + (1) = 2$

Fourier Series - QUIZ

8. What is

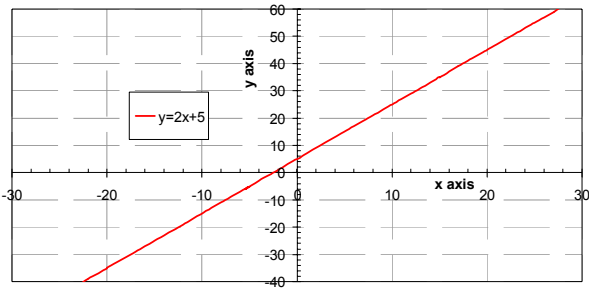
$$I = \int_{-10}^{10} 4x \, dx$$

$$I = \int_{-10}^{10} 4x \, dx = \left[2x^2 \right]_{-10}^{10} = 200 - 200$$



Fourier Series - QUIZ

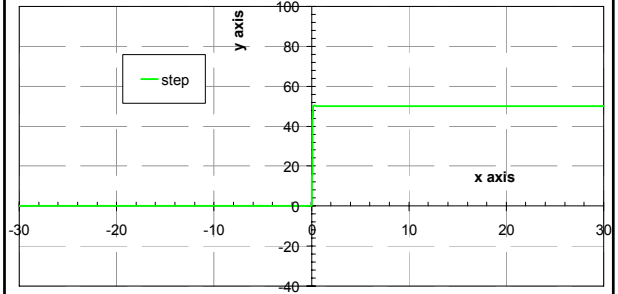
9. Team A: What is $I = \int_0^{10} (2x+5) dx$? $I = \int_0^{10} (2x+5) dx = \left[x^2 + 5x \right]_0^{10} = 150$



Fourier Series - QUIZ

10. Team B: Describe the following step function in terms of $f(x)$ and x ?

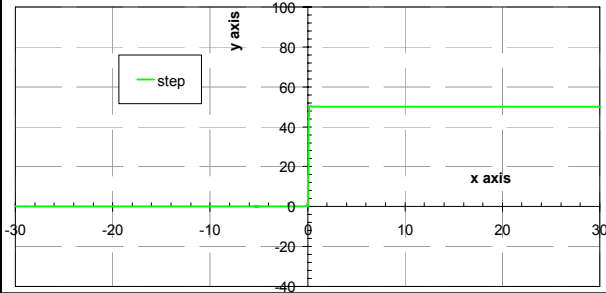
when $x < 0$ $f(x) = 0$
when $x > 0$ $f(x) = 50$



Fourier Series - QUIZ

11. Team A: What is $I = \int_{-10}^{10} f(x) dx$?

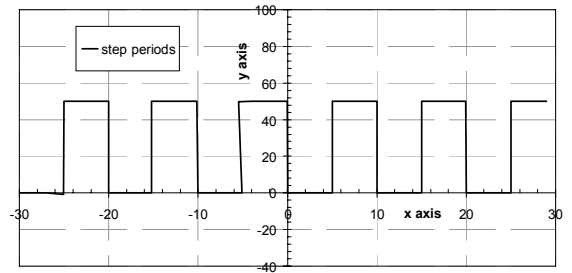
$$I = \int_{-10}^{10} f(x) dx = \int_{-10}^0 0 dx + \int_0^{10} 50 dx = [0x]_{-10}^0 + [50x]_0^{10} = 500$$



Fourier Series - QUIZ

12. Team B: Describe the following step function over one period in terms of $f(x)$ and x ?

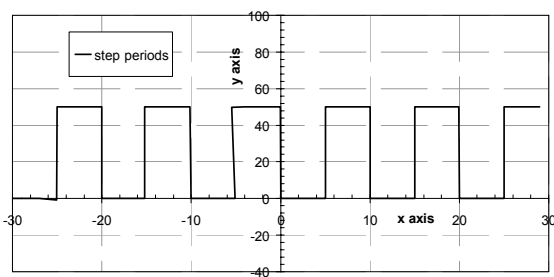
when $5 > x > 0$ $f(x) = 0$
when $10 > x \geq 5$ $f(x) = 50$



Fourier Series - QUIZ

13. Team A: What is the integral of $f(x)$ over one period ?

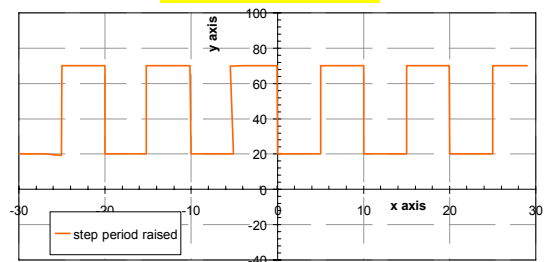
$$I = \int_0^{10} f(x) dx = \int_0^5 0 dx + \int_5^{10} 50 dx = [0x]_0^5 + [50x]_5^{10} = 250$$



Fourier Series - QUIZ

14. Team B: Describe the following step function over one period in terms of $f(x)$ and x ?

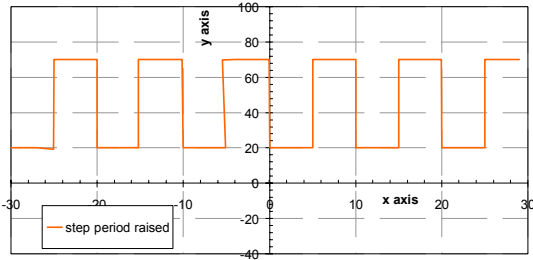
when $5 > x > 0$ $f(x) = 20$
when $10 > x \geq 5$ $f(x) = 70$



Fourier Series - QUIZ

15. Team A: What is the integral of $f(x)$ over one period ?

$$I = \int_0^{10} f(x) dx = \int_0^5 20 dx + \int_5^{10} 70 dx = [20x]_0^5 + [70x]_5^{10} = 450$$



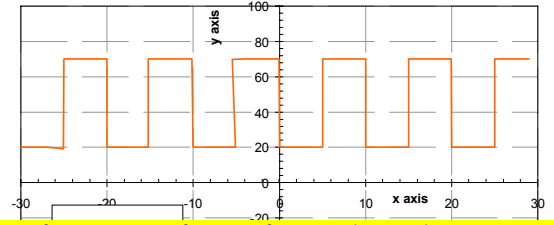
Fourier Series - QUIZ

Fourier series

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

16. Team B: If we were to represent the function below as a Fourier series what could you say about the value of a_0 ?

a_0 is baseline shifter. Half way between 20 and 70 is 45. So $a_0 = 90$



$$a_0 = \frac{2}{\text{period}} \int_{-b}^{\text{period}} f(x) dx = \frac{2}{10} \int_{-5}^5 20 dx + \frac{2}{10} \int_5^{10} 70 dx = \frac{1}{5} [20x]_{-5}^5 + \frac{1}{5} [70x]_5^{10} = 20 + 70 = 90$$

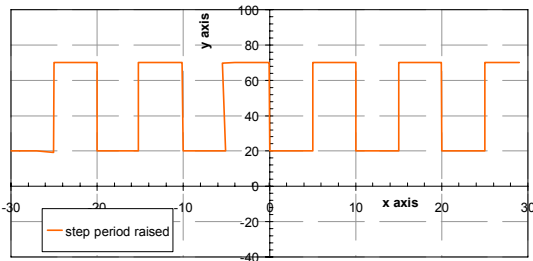
Fourier Series - QUIZ

Fourier series

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

17. Team A: If we were to represent the function below as a Fourier series what could you say about the values of the a_n terms ?

odd function so all a_n terms are zero

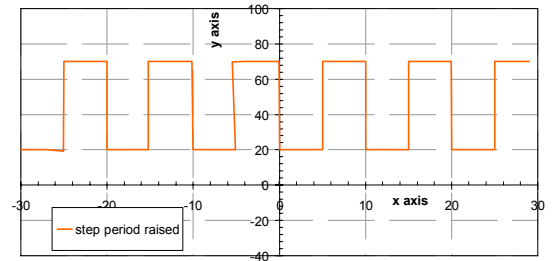


Fourier Series - QUIZ

Fourier series

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

18. Team B: If we were to represent the function below as a Fourier series what could you say about the sign of the b_1 term ?



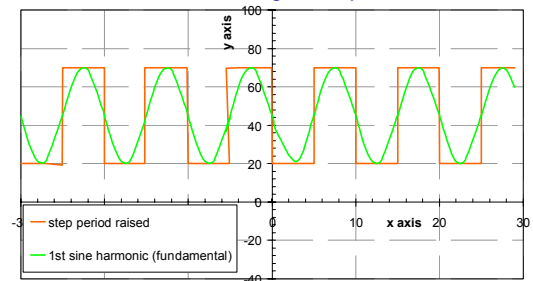
Fourier Series - QUIZ

Fourier series

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

18. Team B: If we were to represent the function below as a Fourier series what could you say about the value of the b_1 term ?

It would have a negative amplitude



Lecture 7 – Fourier Series

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

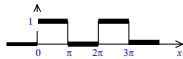
$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Today

- More examples of Fourier series
- Describing pulses with Fourier series

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series

Find Fourier series to represent this repeat pattern.



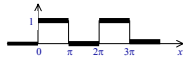
Steps to calculate coefficients of Fourier series

- Write down the function $f(x)$ in terms of x . What is period? $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < x < \pi \\ 0 & \pi < x < 2\pi \end{cases}$
Period is 2π
- Use equation to find a_0 ? $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} 1 dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} 0 dx = \frac{1}{\pi} [x]_0^{\pi} = 1$
- Use equation to find a_n ? $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (1) \cos nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (0) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} = 0$
- Use equation to find b_n ? $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (1) \sin nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (0) \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin nx dx = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi}$
 $b_n = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos n\pi}{n} - \frac{\cos 0}{n} \right] = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\cos n\pi}{n} - \frac{1}{n} \right)$

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series

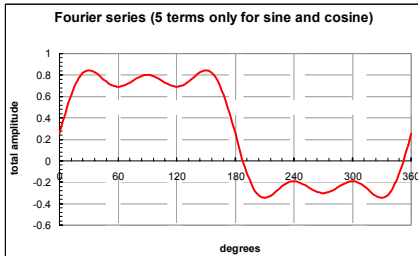
- Use equation to find b_n ? $b_n = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos n\pi}{n} - \frac{\cos 0}{n} \right] = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\cos n\pi}{n} - \frac{\cos 0}{n} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos n\pi}{n} \right)$
- Write out values of b_n for $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots$
 $b_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos 1\pi}{1} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(1 - \frac{(-1)}{1} \right) = \frac{2}{\pi}$
 $b_2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos 2\pi}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - (1)}{2} \right) = 0$
 $b_3 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos 3\pi}{3} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - (-1)}{3} \right) = \frac{2}{3\pi}$
 $b_4 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos 4\pi}{4} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - (1)}{4} \right) = 0$
 $b_5 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos 5\pi}{5} \right) = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1 - (-1)}{5} \right) = \frac{2}{5\pi}$
- Write out Fourier series $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L}$
with period L , a_n , b_n in the generic form replaced with values for our example
 $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{2\pi} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \sin x + \frac{2}{3\pi} \sin 3x + \frac{2}{5\pi} \sin 5x + \dots$

So what does this Fourier series look like if we only use first few terms?



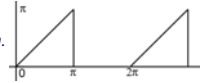
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \sin x + \frac{2}{3\pi} \sin 3x + \frac{2}{5\pi} \sin 5x + \dots$$

Use Fourier_checker on website



Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series

Find Fourier series to represent this repeat pattern.



Steps to calculate coefficients of Fourier series

- Write down the function $f(x)$ in terms of x . What is period? $f(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 < x < \pi \\ 2\pi - x & \pi \leq x < 2\pi \end{cases}$ Period is 2π
 - Use equation to find a_0 ? $a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx = \frac{2}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (2\pi - x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^{\pi} + \frac{1}{\pi} \left[2\pi x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} = \frac{\pi}{2}$
- Left side - find coefficients a_n Right side - find coefficients b_n

Finding coefficients of the Fourier Series



$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 < x < \pi \\ 2\pi - x & \pi \leq x < 2\pi \end{cases}$$

First 5 terms ($n=1$ to 5)

Left side - find coefficients a_n

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (2\pi - x) \cos nx dx$$

Right side - find coefficients b_n

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (2\pi - x) \sin nx dx$$

Attendance sheet



$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 < x < \pi \\ 2\pi - x & \pi \leq x < 2\pi \end{cases} \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx$$

Period is 2π

Coefficients a_n

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (2\pi - x) \cos nx dx$$

Integrate by parts

$$\int u dv = uv - \int v du$$

$$u = x$$

$$dv = \cos nx dx$$

$$du = dx$$

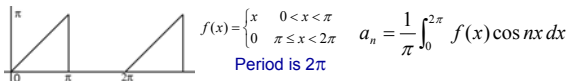
$$v = \int \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{n} \sin nx$$

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

$$a_n = \left[\frac{x}{\pi n} \sin nx \right]_0^{\pi} + \left[\frac{1}{\pi n^2} \cos nx \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi}$$

$$a_n = \left(\frac{1}{n} \sin n\pi + \frac{1}{\pi n^2} \cos n\pi \right) - \left(0 + \frac{1}{\pi n^2} \right)$$

a



Coefficients a_n

a

$$a_n = \left(\frac{1}{n} \sin n\pi + \frac{1}{n^2} \cos n\pi \right) - \left(\frac{1}{n^2} \right)$$

$$a_n = \left(\frac{1}{n^2} (-1)^n \right) - \left(\frac{1}{n^2} \right) = \frac{1}{n^2} ((-1)^n - 1)$$

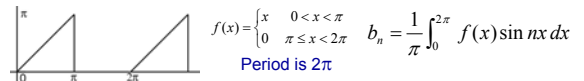
$$a_1 = \left(-\frac{1}{\pi} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{\pi} \right) = -\frac{2}{\pi}$$

$$a_4 = \left(\frac{1}{16\pi} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{16\pi} \right) = 0$$

$$a_2 = \left(\frac{1}{4\pi} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{4\pi} \right) = 0$$

$$a_5 = \left(-\frac{1}{25\pi} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{25\pi} \right) = -\frac{2}{25\pi}$$

$$a_3 = \left(-\frac{1}{9\pi} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{9\pi} \right) = -\frac{2}{9\pi}$$



Coefficients b_n

b

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (2\pi - x) \sin nx \, dx$$

Integrate by parts $\int u \, dv = uv - \int v \, du$

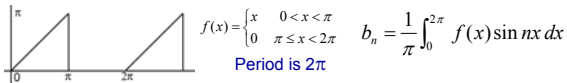
$$u = x \quad dv = \sin nx \, dx$$

$$du = dx \quad v = \int \sin nx \, dx = -\frac{1}{n} \cos nx$$

$$b_n = -\frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{x}{n} \cos nx \right]_0^{\pi} + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1}{n} \cos nx \, dx$$

$$b_n = \left[-\frac{x}{n} \cos nx \right]_0^{\pi} + \left[\frac{1}{n^2} \sin nx \right]_0^{\pi}$$

$$b_n = \left(-\frac{1}{n} \cos n\pi + \frac{1}{n^2} \sin n\pi \right)$$



Coefficients b_n

$$b_n = \left(-\frac{1}{n} \cos n\pi + \frac{1}{n^2} \sin n\pi \right)$$

$$b_n = -\frac{1}{n} (-1)^n$$

b

$$b_1 = 1 \quad b_4 = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$b_2 = -\frac{1}{2} \quad b_5 = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$b_3 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$a_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$a_1 = -\frac{2}{\pi}$$

$$a_4 = 0$$

$$a_2 = 0$$

$$a_5 = -\frac{2}{25\pi}$$

$$a_3 = -\frac{2}{9\pi}$$

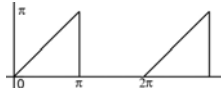
$$b_1 = 1 \quad b_4 = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$b_2 = -\frac{1}{2} \quad b_5 = \frac{1}{5}$$

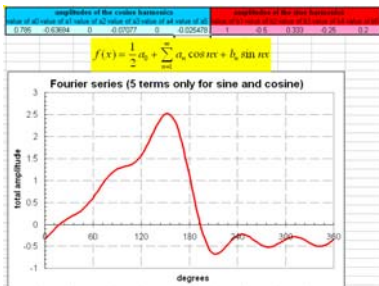
$$b_3 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \cos 1x - \frac{2}{9\pi} \cos 3x - \frac{2}{25\pi} \cos 5x + 1 \sin 1x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots$$

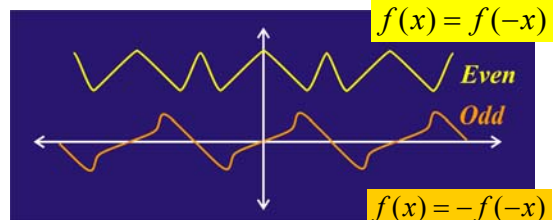
Check our Fourier series using [Fourier_checker.xls](#)



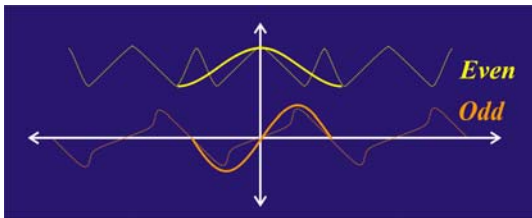
$$f(x) = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \cos 1x - \frac{2}{9\pi} \cos 3x - \frac{2}{25\pi} \cos 5x + 1 \sin 1x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots$$



Fourier Series of even and odd repeating functions



Fourier Series of even and odd repeating functions



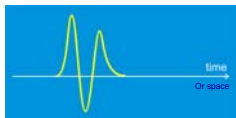
Only *sine* terms required to define an **odd function**
 Only *cosine* terms required to define an **even function**

Only an even function can have an offset.

Fourier Series applied to pulses



$$f(x) = \begin{cases} = 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ \neq 0 & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq d \\ = 0 & \text{for } x > d \end{cases}$$



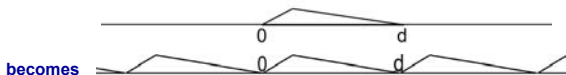
Laser light pulse

Initial displacement of a guitar string

Electronic wavefunction of a molecule

Can Fourier series be used to represent a single pulse event rather than an infinitely repeating pattern ?

Yes. It's fine if you have a single pulse occurring between 0 and d to pretend that it is part of an infinitely repeating pattern. All you have to do then is work out the Fourier series for the infinite pattern and say that the pulse is represented by that function just between 0 and d



becomes

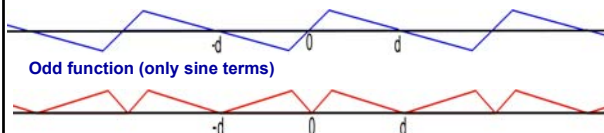
but only look between 0 and d



This approach is fine but it leads to a lot of work in the integration stage.

There is a better way....

If the only condition is that the pretend function be periodic, and since we know that even functions contain only cosine terms and odd functions only sine terms, why don't we draw it either like this or this?

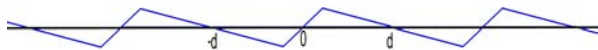


Odd function (only sine terms)

Even function (only cosine terms)

What is period of repeating pattern now?

Half-range sine series – where $L=2d$



We saw earlier that for a function with period L the Fourier series is:-

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} \quad \text{where} \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

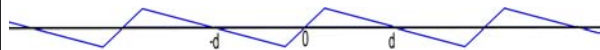
In the half range case we have a function of **period $2d$** which is odd and so contains only sine terms, so the formulae become:-

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{(2d)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} \quad \text{where}$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{2d} \int_{-d}^d f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{(2d)} dx = \frac{1}{d} \int_{-d}^d f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx$$

Remember, this is all to simplify the Fourier series. We're still only allowed to look at the function between $x=0$ and $x=d$

Half-range sine series



$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} \quad b_n = \frac{1}{d} \int_{-d}^d f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx$$

$$f(x) = \text{ODD} \quad \text{ODD} \times \text{ODD} = \text{EVEN}$$

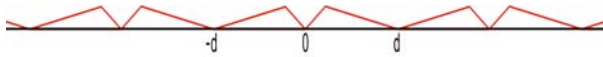
$$\sin x = \text{ODD}$$

$$\int_{-d}^d \text{EVEN} = 2 \int_0^d \text{EVEN}$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx$$

Fourier Series applied to pulses

Half-range cosine series



Again, for a function with period L the Fourier series is:-

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} \quad \text{where} \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Again we have a function of period $2d$ but this time it is even and so contains only cosine terms, so the formulae become:-

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{(2d)} = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{d} \quad \text{where}$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{2d} \int_{-d}^d f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{(2d)} dx = \frac{1}{d} \int_{-d}^d f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx$$

$$f(x) = \text{EVEN} \quad \int_{-d}^d \text{EVEN} = 2 \int_0^d \text{EVEN}$$

Half-range sine and cosine series

The Fourier series for a pulse such as can be written as either a half range sine or cosine series. However the series is only valid between 0 and d

Half range sine series $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d}$ where $b_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx$

Half range cosine series $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{d}$ where $a_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx$

Let's do an example to demonstrate this.....

Half Range Fourier Series

Find Half Range **Sine** Series which represents the displacement $f(x)$, between $x = 0$ and 6 , of the pulse shown to the right



The pulse is defined as $f(x) = x$ for $0 < x \leq 6$ with a length $d = 6$

So $b_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx = \frac{2}{6} \int_0^6 x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{6} dx$ Integrate by parts $\int u dv = uv - \int v du$

so set $u = x$ and $\sin \frac{n\pi x}{6} dx = dv$ $v = \int \sin \frac{n\pi x}{6} dx = -\frac{6}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{6}$ as $du = dx$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{3} \left(\left[-\frac{6x}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{6} \right]_0^6 + \int_0^6 \frac{6}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{6} dx \right) = \frac{1}{3} \left(\left[-\frac{6x}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{6} \right]_0^6 + \left[\frac{36}{n^2\pi^2} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{6} \right]_0^6 \right)$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{3} \left(\left[-\frac{36}{n\pi} \cos n\pi \right] + \left[\frac{36}{n^2\pi^2} \sin n\pi \right] \right) = \frac{12}{n^2\pi^2} \sin n\pi - \frac{12}{n\pi} \cos n\pi$$

n=1	n=2	n=3	n=4	n=5
$b_1 = \frac{12}{\pi}$	$b_2 = -\frac{12}{2\pi} = \frac{6}{\pi}$	$b_3 = \frac{12}{3\pi} = \frac{4}{\pi}$	$b_4 = -\frac{12}{4\pi} = -\frac{3}{\pi}$	$b_5 = \frac{12}{5\pi}$

Half Range Fourier Series

Find Half Range **Sine** Series which represents the displacement $f(x)$, between $x = 0$ and 6 , of the pulse shown to the right



Half range sine series $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d}$ where $b_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d} dx$

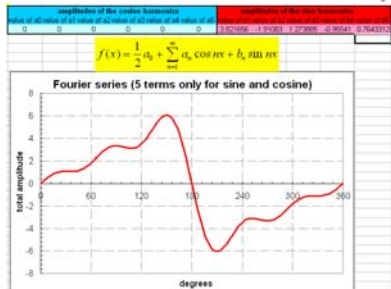
$$f(x) = \frac{12}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi x}{6} - \frac{6}{\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{3} + \frac{4}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi x}{2} - \frac{3}{\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{3} + \frac{12}{5\pi} \sin \frac{5\pi x}{6} + \dots$$

Can we check this on [Fourier_checker.xls](#)

n=1	n=2	n=3	n=4	n=5
$b_1 = \frac{12}{\pi}$	$b_2 = -\frac{12}{2\pi} = -\frac{6}{\pi}$	$b_3 = \frac{12}{3\pi} = \frac{4}{\pi}$	$b_4 = -\frac{12}{4\pi} = -\frac{3}{\pi}$	$b_5 = \frac{12}{5\pi}$

Half Range Fourier Series

$$f(x) = \frac{12}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi x}{6} - \frac{6}{\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{3} + \frac{4}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi x}{2} - \frac{3}{\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{3} + \frac{12}{5\pi} \sin \frac{5\pi x}{6} + \dots$$



n=1	n=2	n=3	n=4	n=5
$b_1 = \frac{12}{\pi}$	$b_2 = -\frac{12}{2\pi} = \frac{6}{\pi}$	$b_3 = \frac{12}{3\pi} = \frac{4}{\pi}$	$b_4 = -\frac{12}{4\pi} = -\frac{3}{\pi}$	$b_5 = \frac{12}{5\pi}$

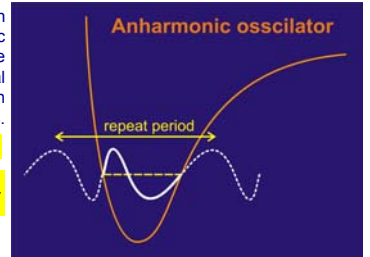
Fourier Series applied to pulses

Why is this useful?

In Quantum you have seen that there exist specific solutions to the wave equation within a potential well subject to the given boundary conditions.

$$\Psi_n = 0 \quad \text{when} \quad x = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad x = d$$

$$\Psi(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Psi_n(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{d}$$



Given a complicated general solution we can deconvolve into harmonic terms

Lecture 7 – Summary

■ Practice questions – online at <http://www.hep.shef.ac.uk/phy226/unit1/phy226T1to4.htm>

- Normal series
- Even and odd functions
- Pulses
- Repeat period of 2π and other arbitrary repeat periods

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

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Lecture 8 – Summary

■ Practice questions – online at <http://www.hep.shef.ac.uk/phy226/unit1/phy226T1to4.htm>

- Complex Fourier series
- Parseval's theorem
- Revision & Practice

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

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Complex Fourier Series

In many areas of physics, especially Quantum mechanics, it is more convenient to consider waves written in their complex form

Remember:-

$$\cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} = \cos nx = \frac{1}{2}(e^{inx} + e^{-inx}) \quad \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} = \sin nx = \frac{1}{2i}(e^{inx} - e^{-inx})$$

The complex form of the Fourier series can be derived by assuming a solution of the form $f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{inx}$ and then multiplying both sides by e^{-imx} and integrating over a period:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-imx} dx = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n \int_0^{2\pi} e^{inx} e^{-imx} dx = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n \int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(n-m)x} dx$$

For $n \neq m$ integral vanishes. For $n=m$ integral = 2π . So $c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx$

Complex Fourier Series

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$$\int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(n-m)x} dx = \int_0^{2\pi} \cos(n-m)x dx + i \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(n-m)x dx$$

For $n \neq m$ integral vanishes. For $n=m$ integral = 2π . So $c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx$

Complex Fourier Series

Therefore for a period of 2π the complex Fourier series is given as:-

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{inx} \quad \text{where} \quad c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx$$

The more general expression for a function $f(x)$ with period L can be expressed as:-

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} \quad \text{where} \quad c_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} dx$$

Let's try an example from the notes

Complex Fourier Series example

Example 4.5

Find the complex Fourier series for $f(x) = x$ in the range $-2 < x < 2$ if the repeat period is 4.

$$c_n = \frac{1}{4} \int_0^L f(x) e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} dx \quad \text{and period is 4, so we write} \quad c_n = \frac{1}{4} \int_{-2}^2 x e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} dx$$

Integration by parts $\int u dv = uv - \int v du$ with $u = x$ and $dv = e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} dx$

$$\text{So } du = dx \text{ and } v = \frac{-2}{\pi n} e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}}$$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{-2x}{\pi n} e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} + \int \frac{2}{\pi n} e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} dx \right]_{-2}^2 = \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{-2x}{\pi n} e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} - \frac{4}{\pi^2 n^2} e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} \right]_{-2}^2 = \left[\frac{-x}{2\pi n} e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} + \frac{1}{\pi^2 n^2} e^{-\frac{\pi i n x}{2}} \right]_{-2}^2$$

$$c_n = \left[\frac{-1}{\pi n} e^{-\pi i n} + \frac{1}{\pi^2 n^2} e^{-\pi i n} \right] - \left[\frac{-1}{\pi n} e^{\pi i n} + \frac{1}{\pi^2 n^2} e^{\pi i n} \right] = \frac{-1}{\pi n} (e^{-\pi i n} + e^{\pi i n}) + \frac{1}{\pi^2 n^2} (e^{-\pi i n} - e^{\pi i n})$$

Complex Fourier Series example

Example 6

Find the complex Fourier series for $f(x) = x$ in the range $-2 < x < 2$ if the repeat period is 4.

Since $\frac{-1}{i} \times \frac{i}{i} = i$ then $C_n = \frac{i}{\pi n} (e^{-\pi n} + e^{\pi n}) + \frac{1}{\pi^2 n^2} (e^{-\pi n} - e^{\pi n})$

We want to find actual values for C_n so it would be helpful to convert expression for C_n into sine and cosine terms using the standard expressions:-

$$\cos n\pi = \frac{1}{2}(e^{-\pi n} + e^{\pi n}) \quad \sin n\pi = \frac{-1}{2i}(e^{-\pi n} - e^{\pi n})$$

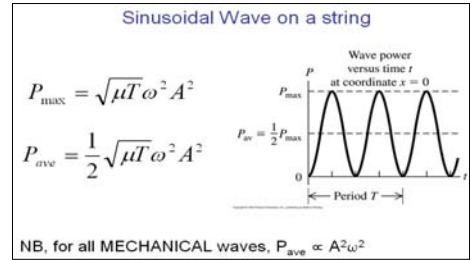
So we can write...

$$C_n = \frac{2i}{\pi n} \cos n\pi - \frac{2i}{\pi^2 n^2} \sin n\pi = \frac{2i}{\pi n} \cos n\pi \quad \text{so} \quad C_n = \frac{2i}{\pi n} \cos n\pi = \frac{2i}{\pi n} (-1)^n \quad \text{and since}$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{\frac{2\pi n x}{L}} \quad \text{so} \quad f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{2i}{\pi n} (-1)^n e^{\frac{\pi n x}{2}}$$

Parseval's Theorem applied to Fourier Series

The energy in a vibrating string or an electrical signal is proportional to the square of the amplitude of the wave



Parseval's Theorem applied to Fourier Series

Consider again the standard Fourier series with a period taken for simplicity as 2π

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

Square both sides then integrate over a period:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} [f(x)]^2 dx = \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx \right]^2 dx$$

The RHS will give both squared terms and cross term. When we integrate, all the cross terms will vanish. All the squares of the cosines and sines integrate to give π (half the period). Hence:-

$$\int_0^{2\pi} [f(x)]^2 dx = \pi \frac{a_0^2}{2} + \pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n^2 + b_n^2]$$

Hence Parseval's theorem tells us that the total energy in a vibrating system is equal to the sum of the energies in the individual modes.

Practice and revision

Try online questions 2 & 7

Fourier Series in movies!!!!

In music if the fundamental frequency of a note is 100 Hz
Then the harmonics are at 200 Hz, 300 Hz, 400 Hz, 500 Hz, 600 Hz
But the octaves are at 200 Hz, 400 Hz, 800 Hz, 1600 Hz, 3200 Hz

If you wanted to explain the Fourier series to an alien you'd probably pick notes that showed you understood this

So as a greeting why not try **G, A, F, F_{octave lower}, C**

392Hz 440Hz 349Hz 174Hz 261Hz

Why are these notes special ... We'll take the 1st harmonic as $F_{\text{bottom}} = 21.8\text{Hz}$
18th harmonic 20th harmonic 4th octave 8th harmonic 12th harmonic
(16th harmonic)

$$f(t)_{\text{total}} = B_8 \sin(2\pi f_8 t) + B_{20} \sin(2\pi f_{20} t) + B_{16} \sin(2\pi f_{16} t) + B_8 \sin(2\pi f_8 t) + B_{12} \sin(2\pi f_{12} t)$$

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=tUcOaGawIW0>