

- Find the D'Alembert's solution of one-dimensional wave equation,  $u_{tt} = u_{xx}$ , on the infinite string with the following initial conditions:
  - $u(x, 0) = x^2$ ,  $u_t(x, 0) = \sin x$ .
  - $u(x, 0) = \sin x$ ,  $u_t(x, 0) = \cos x$ .

**Solution:**

(A) The D'Alembert solution for the wave equation  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$  is given by:

$$u(x, t) = \frac{f(x+ct) + f(x-ct)}{2} + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} g(\eta) d\eta,$$

where  $u(x, 0) = f(x)$  and  $u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \frac{(x+t)^2 + (x-t)^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \sin \eta d\eta, \\ &= x^2 + t^2 + \frac{1}{2} (\cos(x-t) - \cos(x+t)), \\ &= x^2 + t^2 + \sin x \sin t. \end{aligned}$$

(B) Similar to part (A), we obtain the solution,

$$u(x, t) = \frac{\sin(x+t) + \sin(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \cos \eta d\eta = \sin(x+t).$$

- An infinite string stretching is given the initial displacement,

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{1+4x^2},$$

and released from rest. Find its subsequent motion as a function of  $x$  and  $t$ .

**Solution:**

Recall the D'Alembert's solution for the one-dimensional wave equation. Application of the initial displacement  $u(x, 0) = \phi(x) = \frac{1}{1+4x^2}$  and the initial velocity  $u_t(x, 0) = \psi(x) = 0$ , results in the following expression for  $u(x, t)$  as,

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1 + 4(x^2 + c^2 t^2)}{[1 + 4(x+ct)^2][1 + 4(x-ct)^2]}.$$

- Determine the Fourier series of the following functions:

$$(A) \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} -x, & -\pi \leq x \leq 0, \\ x, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi. \end{cases}$$

(B)  $f(x) = |\sin x|, \quad -\pi < x < \pi.$

**Solution:**

(A) This is an even periodic function with period  $2\pi$ . Thus,  $B_n = 0 \forall n$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} A_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |x| dx = \pi \\ A_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |x| \cos nx dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi n^2} \left[ \cos nx \right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{2}{\pi n^2} \{(-1)^n - 1\} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ -\frac{4}{\pi n^2}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the Fourier series is given by,

$$f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{\cos x}{1^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} + \frac{\cos 5x}{5^2} + \dots \right\}.$$

(B) Since  $|\sin x|$  is an even function, we have  $B_n = 0$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Further,

$$\begin{aligned} A_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin x \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} [\sin(1+n)x + \sin(1-n)x] dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{[1 + (-1)^n]}{(1 - n^2)}, \text{ for } n = 0, 2, 3, \dots \end{aligned}$$

For  $n = 1$ ,  $A_1 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin x \cos x dx = 0$ . Thus, the Fourier series is given by,

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} + \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos 2nx}{(1 - 4n^2)}.$$

4. For the following functions, determine the Fourier cosine series and the Fourier sine series on the interval  $0 < x < \pi$ :

(A)  $f(x) = 1.$

(B)  $f(x) = \pi - x.$

(C)  $f(x) = x^2.$

Solution:

(A) Cosine series:  $f(x) = 1$  and Sine series:  $f(x) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(2n-1)x}{2n-1}$ .

(B) Cosine series:  $f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2n-1)x}{(2n-1)^2}$  and Sine series:  $f(x) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin nx}{n}$ .

(C) Cosine series:  $f(x) = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cos nx}{n^2}$  and  
Sine series:  $f(x) = 2\pi^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi} - 2 \frac{(1 - (-1)^n)}{(n\pi)^3} \right] \sin nx$ .

5. Given the Fourier series for the function  $f(t) = t^4$ ,  $-\pi < t < \pi$ , as,

$$\frac{\pi^4}{5} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8(-1)^n}{n^4} (\pi^2 n^2 - 6) \cos nt,$$

determine the Fourier series for  $f(t) = t^5$ ,  $-\pi < t < \pi$ .

Solution:

Integrating the given series will result in a sine series, along with another  $t$  with the constant  $\frac{\pi^4}{5}$ .

We know that the Fourier series for  $\frac{t}{2}$  is determined as,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin nt.$$

Now, substituting this back into the series for  $t^5$ , we obtain,

$$t^5 = 2\pi^4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin nt + 40 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^5} (n^2 \pi^2 - 6) \sin nt.$$

6. Deduce the Fourier series for the function  $f(x) = e^{ax}$ ,  $-\pi < x < \pi$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Hence find the values of the following four series:

(A)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2}$

(B)  $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2}$

(C)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^2 + n^2}$

(D)  $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^2 + n^2}$ .

**Solution:**

The Fourier series of given function  $f(x)$  is:

$$\frac{\sinh(\pi a)}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{a} + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2} [a \cos(nx) - n \sin(nx)] \right\}.$$

(A) Substituting  $x = 0$ , which is a point of continuity, we obtain,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2} = \frac{a\pi - \sinh a\pi}{2a^2 \sinh a\pi}.$$

(B) We write

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2} + (\text{the term for } n = 0) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2}.$$

Changing  $n$  to  $-n$  in the first sum on RHS, simplifying and using the result in part (A), we obtain,

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2} = \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{2(a\pi - \sinh a\pi)}{2a^2 \sinh a\pi}.$$

(C) We have to put  $x = \pi$  in the above Fourier series. Observe that we can not directly put  $x = \pi$  in the above Fourier series, due to convergence problem. Accordingly, we define  $g : [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by,

$$g(-\pi) = g(\pi) = \frac{1}{2} [f(-\pi^+) + f(\pi^-)] = \frac{e^{-a\pi} + e^{a\pi}}{2} = \cosh(a\pi), \quad g(x) = f(x), x \in (-\pi, \pi).$$

Clearly  $g$  is a piece-wise  $C^1$  function on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  and  $g(-\pi) = g(\pi)$ . Thus the Fourier series of  $g$  converges to  $g$  in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ ,

$$g(x) = \frac{\sinh(\pi a)}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{a} + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2} [a \cos(nx) - n \sin(nx)] \right\}.$$

Now substituting  $x = \pi$ , we obtain,

$$g(\pi) = \cosh(a\pi) = \frac{\sinh(\pi a)}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{a} + 2a \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{a^2 + n^2} \cos(n\pi) \right\}.$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^2 + n^2} = \frac{a\pi \cosh(a\pi) - \sinh(\pi a)}{2a^2 \sinh(a\pi)}.$$

(D) Similar to part(B), from part (C), we obtain the result for part (D) as,

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^2 + n^2} = \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{a\pi \cosh(a\pi) - \sinh(\pi a)}{a^2 \sinh(a\pi)}.$$

7. Consider  $f(x) = \sqrt{1 - \cos x}$ ,  $0 < x < 2\pi$ .

- (A) Determine Fourier series expansion of  $f$  in  $(0, 2\pi)$ .  
 (B) Does the limit of Fourier series exist at  $x = 0$ ?  
 (C) Use part (B) to find the series

$$\frac{1}{1 \times 3} + \frac{1}{3 \times 5} + \frac{1}{5 \times 7} + \cdots$$

Solution:

- (A) We have  $f(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2}$ . Then the Fourier series expansion is given by,

$$\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \right\}, \quad x \in (0, 2\pi),$$

with  $L = \pi$  and

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^{2L} f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^{2L} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

We now calculate each of these coefficients to be,

$$a_0 = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi}$$

$$a_n = -\frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi(4n^2 - 1)}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots,$$

$$b_n = 0, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Therefore the desired Fourier series is given by,

$$\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi(4n^2 - 1)} \cos nx.$$

- (B) For this part, we define  $g : [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$g(0) = g(2\pi) = \frac{1}{2} [f(0^+) + f(2\pi^-)] = 0, \quad g(x) = f(x), \quad x \in (0, 2\pi).$$

Clearly  $g$  is a piece-wise  $C^1$  function in  $[0, 2\pi]$  and  $g(0) = g(2\pi)$ . Thus Fourier series of  $g$  converges to  $g$  in  $[0, 2\pi]$ . Observe that Fourier series of  $g$  is given by

$$\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi(4n^2 - 1)} \cos nx.$$

Thus, the Fourier series of  $f$  in part (A) converges to  $g(0) = 0$ .

- (C) Using part (B), we obtain,

$$\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi(4n^2 - 1)} \cos 0 = 0,$$

which gives,

$$\frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)(2n-1)} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}.$$