

GATE IN-13 2022

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Q: A periodic function $f(x)$, with period 2, is defined as

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -1 - x & -1 \leq x < 0 \\ 1 - x & 0 < x \leq 1 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

The Fourier series of this function contains

- A. Both $\cos(n\pi x)$ and $\sin(n\pi x)$ where $n=1,2,3,\dots$
- B. Only $\sin(n\pi x)$ where $n=1,2,3,\dots$
- C. Only $\cos(n\pi x)$ where $n=1,2,3,\dots$
- D. Only $\cos(2n\pi x)$ where $n=1,2,3,\dots$

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Solution:

The Fourier series expansion is

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

$$a_0 = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx \quad (3)$$

$$= \int_{-1}^0 (-1 - x) dx + \int_0^1 (1 - x) dx \quad (4)$$

$$= \left(-x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right)_{-1}^0 + \left(x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right)_0^1 \quad (5)$$

$$= (0) - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \right) - (0) \quad (6)$$

$$\Rightarrow a_0 = 0 \quad (7)$$

$$a_n = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \cos(n\pi x) dx \quad (8)$$

$$= \int_{-1}^0 (-1 - x) \cos(n\pi x) dx + \int_0^1 (1 - x) \cos(n\pi x) dx \quad (9)$$

$$= - \left(\frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} \right)_{-1}^0 - \left(x \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} - \int_{-1}^0 \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} dx \right) + \left(\frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} \right)_0^1 - \left(x \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} - \int_0^1 \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} dx \right) \quad (10)$$

$$= 0 - \left(x \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} + \frac{\cos(n\pi x)}{(n\pi)^2} \right)_{-1}^0 + 0 - \left(x \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} + \frac{\cos(n\pi x)}{(n\pi)^2} \right)_0^1 \quad (11)$$

$$= - \left(\frac{1}{(n\pi)^2} - \frac{(-1)^n}{(n\pi)^2} \right) - \left(\frac{(-1)^n}{(n\pi)^2} - \frac{1}{(n\pi)^2} \right) \quad (12)$$

$$\Rightarrow a_n = 0 \quad (13)$$

$$b_n = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \sin(n\pi x) dx \quad (14)$$

$$= \int_{-1}^0 (-1-x) \sin(n\pi x) dx + \int_0^1 (+1-x) \sin(n\pi x) dx \quad (15)$$

$$= -\left(\frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi}\right)_{-1}^0 - \left(x\frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} - \int_{-1}^0 \frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} dx\right) + \left(\frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi}\right)_0^1 - \left(x\frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} - \int_0^1 \frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} dx\right) \quad (16)$$

$$= -\left(\frac{1}{n\pi} - \frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi}\right) - \left(x\frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} + \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{(n\pi)^2}\right)_{-1}^0 + \left(\frac{1}{n\pi} - \frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi}\right) - \left(x\frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} + \frac{\sin(n\pi x)}{(n\pi)^2}\right)_0^1 \quad (17)$$

$$= 0 - \left(0 - \frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi}\right) - \left(-\frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi} - 0\right) \quad (18)$$

$$\Rightarrow b_n = 2\frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi} \quad (19)$$

\Rightarrow Fourier series expansion is $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2\frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x)$.

\therefore The Fourier series of this function contains only $\sin(n\pi x)$ where $n=1,2,3,\dots$