

# Fourier Series

## 4. Integrals

Formula for integration by parts:  $\int_a^b u \frac{dv}{dx} dx = [uv]_a^b - \int_a^b \frac{du}{dx} v dx$

$f(x)$	$\int f(x) dx$	$f(x)$	$\int f(x) dx$
$x^n$	$\frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \quad (n \neq -1)$	$[g(x)]^n g'(x)$	$\frac{[g(x)]^{n+1}}{n+1} \quad (n \neq -1)$
$\frac{1}{x}$	$\ln  x $	$\frac{g'(x)}{g(x)}$	$\ln  g(x) $
$e^x$	$e^x$	$a^x$	$\frac{a^x}{\ln a} \quad (a > 0)$
$\sin x$	$-\cos x$	$\sinh x$	$\cosh x$
$\cos x$	$\sin x$	$\cosh x$	$\sinh x$
$\tan x$	$-\ln  \cos x $	$\tanh x$	$\ln \cosh x$
$\operatorname{cosec} x$	$\ln \left  \tan \frac{x}{2} \right $	$\operatorname{cosech} x$	$\ln \left  \tanh \frac{x}{2} \right $
$\sec x$	$\ln  \sec x + \tan x $	$\operatorname{sech} x$	$2 \tan^{-1} e^x$
$\sec^2 x$	$\tan x$	$\operatorname{sech}^2 x$	$\tanh x$
$\cot x$	$\ln  \sin x $	$\coth x$	$\ln  \sinh x $
$\sin^2 x$	$\frac{x}{2} - \frac{\sin 2x}{4}$	$\sinh^2 x$	$\frac{\sinh 2x}{4} - \frac{x}{2}$
$\cos^2 x$	$\frac{x}{2} + \frac{\sin 2x}{4}$	$\cosh^2 x$	$\frac{\sinh 2x}{4} + \frac{x}{2}$

# Fourier Series

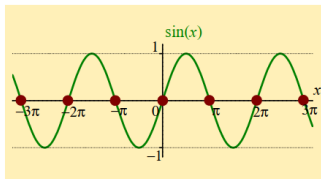
$f(x)$	$\int f(x) dx$	$f(x)$	$\int f(x) dx$
$\frac{1}{a^2+x^2}$	$\frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$ $(a > 0)$	$\frac{1}{a^2-x^2}$	$\frac{1}{2a} \ln \left  \frac{a+x}{a-x} \right  \quad (0 <  x  < a)$ $\frac{1}{2a} \ln \left  \frac{x-a}{x+a} \right  \quad ( x  > a > 0)$
$\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}}$	$\sin^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$ $(-a < x < a)$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2+x^2}}$	$\ln \left  \frac{x+\sqrt{a^2+x^2}}{a} \right  \quad (a > 0)$ $\ln \left  \frac{x+\sqrt{x^2-a^2}}{a} \right  \quad (x > a > 0)$
$\sqrt{a^2-x^2}$	$\frac{a^2}{2} \left[ \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{a} \right) + \frac{x\sqrt{a^2-x^2}}{a^2} \right]$	$\sqrt{a^2+x^2}$	$\frac{a^2}{2} \left[ \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{a} \right) + \frac{x\sqrt{a^2+x^2}}{a^2} \right]$ $\frac{a^2}{2} \left[ -\cosh^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{a} \right) + \frac{x\sqrt{x^2-a^2}}{a^2} \right]$

# Fourier Series

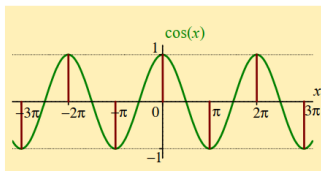
## 5. Useful trig results

When calculating the Fourier coefficients  $a_n$  and  $b_n$ , for which  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , the following trig. results are useful. Each of these results, which are also true for  $n = 0, -1, -2, -3, \dots$ , can be deduced from the graph of  $\sin x$  or that of  $\cos x$

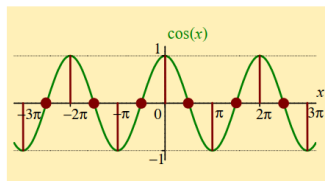
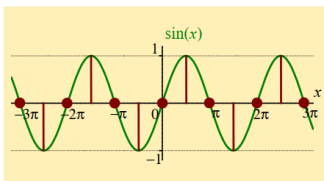
●  $\sin n\pi = 0$



●  $\cos n\pi = (-1)^n$



# Fourier Series



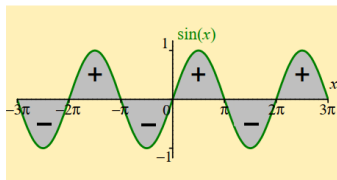
$$\bullet \sin n \frac{\pi}{2} = \begin{cases} 0 & , n \text{ even} \\ 1 & , n = 1, 5, 9, \dots \\ -1 & , n = 3, 7, 11, \dots \end{cases}$$

$$\bullet \cos n \frac{\pi}{2} = \begin{cases} 0 & , n \text{ odd} \\ 1 & , n = 0, 4, 8, \dots \\ -1 & , n = 2, 6, 10, \dots \end{cases}$$

Areas cancel when  
when integrating  
over whole periods

$$\bullet \int_{-2\pi}^{2\pi} \sin nx \, dx = 0$$

$$\bullet \int_{-2\pi}^{2\pi} \cos nx \, dx = 0$$



# Fourier Series

## EXERCISE 1.

Let  $f(x)$  be a function of period  $2\pi$  such that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ 0, & 0 < x < \pi. \end{cases}$$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$

b) Show that the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-\pi < x < \pi$  is

$$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots \right]$$

c) By giving an appropriate value to  $x$ , show that

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## EXERCISE 2.

Let  $f(x)$  be a function of period  $2\pi$  such that

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

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-3\pi < x < 3\pi$

b) Show that the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-\pi < x < \pi$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right] \\ + \left[ \sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

c) By giving appropriate values to  $x$ , show that

$$(i) \frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \frac{\pi^2}{8} = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## EXERCISE 3.

Let  $f(x)$  be a function of period  $2\pi$  such that

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

- a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$
- b) Show that the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in the interval  $0 < x < 2\pi$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} & \left[ \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right] \\ & - \left[ \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

- c) By giving appropriate values to  $x$ , show that

$$(i) \frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \frac{\pi^2}{8} = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## EXERCISE 4.

Let  $f(x)$  be a function of period  $2\pi$  such that

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{2} \text{ over the interval } 0 < x < 2\pi.$$

- a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $0 < x < 4\pi$
- b) Show that the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in the interval  $0 < x < 2\pi$  is

$$\frac{\pi}{2} - \left[ \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \dots \right]$$

- c) By giving an appropriate value to  $x$ , show that

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots$$



# Fourier Series

## EXERCISE 5.

Let  $f(x)$  be a function of period  $2\pi$  such that

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

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$

b) Show that the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in the interval  $0 < x < 2\pi$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &+ \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right] \\ &+ \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + \dots \end{aligned}$$

c) By giving an appropriate value to  $x$ , show that

$$\frac{\pi^2}{8} = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## EXERCISE 6.

Let  $f(x)$  be a function of period  $2\pi$  such that

$$f(x) = x \text{ in the range } -\pi < x < \pi.$$

- a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-3\pi < x < 3\pi$
- b) Show that the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-\pi < x < \pi$  is

$$2 \left[ \sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots \right]$$

- c) By giving an appropriate value to  $x$ , show that

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## EXERCISE 7.

Let  $f(x)$  be a function of period  $2\pi$  such that

$$f(x) = x^2 \text{ over the interval } -\pi < x < \pi.$$

- a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-3\pi < x < 3\pi$
- b) Show that the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-\pi < x < \pi$  is

$$\frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left[ \cos x - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x - \dots \right]$$

- c) By giving an appropriate value to  $x$ , show that

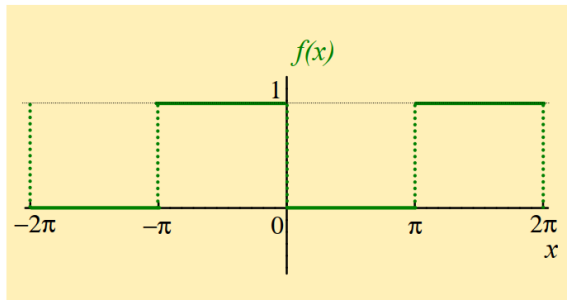
$$\frac{\pi^2}{6} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## Exercise 1.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ 0, & 0 < x < \pi, \end{cases} \quad \text{and has period } 2\pi$$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$



# Fourier Series

## b) Fourier series representation of $f(x)$

STEP ONE

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 1 \cdot dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} 0 \cdot dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} [x]_{-\pi}^0 \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} (0 - (-\pi)) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot (\pi) \\&\text{i.e. } a_0 = 1.\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \cos nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 1 \cdot \cos nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} 0 \cdot \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_{-\pi}^0 = \frac{1}{n\pi} [\sin nx]_{-\pi}^0 \\&= \frac{1}{n\pi} (\sin 0 - \sin(-n\pi)) \\&= \frac{1}{n\pi} (0 + \sin n\pi) \\ \text{i.e. } a_n &= \frac{1}{n\pi} (0 + 0) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \sin nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 1 \cdot \sin nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} 0 \cdot \sin nx \, dx\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right]_{-\pi}^0 \\&= -\frac{1}{n\pi} [\cos nx]_{-\pi}^0 = -\frac{1}{n\pi} (\cos 0 - \cos(-n\pi)) \\&= -\frac{1}{n\pi} (1 - \cos n\pi) = -\frac{1}{n\pi} (1 - (-1)^n), \text{ see } \text{TRIG}\end{aligned}$$

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

# Fourier Series

We now have that

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

with the three steps giving

$$a_0 = 1, \quad a_n = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad b_n = \begin{cases} 0 & , n \text{ even} \\ -\frac{2}{n\pi} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

It may be helpful to construct a table of values of  $b_n$

$n$	1	2	3	4	5
$b_n$	$-\frac{2}{\pi}$	0	$-\frac{2}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)$	0	$-\frac{2}{\pi} \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)$

Substituting our results now gives the required series

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots \right]$$



# Fourier Series

c) Pick an appropriate value of  $x$ , to show that

$$\boxed{\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots}$$

Comparing this series with

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots \right],$$

we need to introduce a minus sign in front of the constants  $\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{5}, \dots$

So we need  $\sin x = 1, \sin 3x = -1, \sin 5x = 1, \sin 7x = -1$ , etc

The first condition of  $\sin x = 1$  suggests trying  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{This choice gives} & \sin \frac{\pi}{2} & + & \frac{1}{3} \sin 3\frac{\pi}{2} & + & \frac{1}{5} \sin 5\frac{\pi}{2} & + & \frac{1}{7} \sin 7\frac{\pi}{2} \\ \text{i.e.} & 1 & - & \frac{1}{3} & + & \frac{1}{5} & - & \frac{1}{7} \end{array}$$

Looking at the graph of  $f(x)$ , we also have that  $f(\frac{\pi}{2}) = 0$ .

# Fourier Series

Picking  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$  thus gives

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \sin \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5} \sin \frac{5\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{7} \sin \frac{7\pi}{2} + \dots \right]$$

$$\text{i.e. } 0 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & - & \frac{1}{3} & + \\ & & & \frac{1}{5} \\ & & - & \frac{1}{7} \\ & & & + \dots \end{array} \right]$$

A little manipulation then gives a series representation of  $\frac{\pi}{4}$

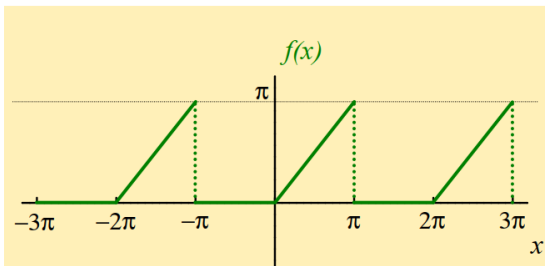
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots \right] &= \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots &= \frac{\pi}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

## Exercise 2.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ x, & 0 < x < \pi, \end{cases} \quad \text{and has period } 2\pi$$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-3\pi < x < 3\pi$



# Fourier Series

## b) Fourier series representation of $f(x)$

### STEP ONE

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 0 \cdot dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^{\pi} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{\pi^2}{2} - 0 \right) \\&\text{i.e. } a_0 = \frac{\pi}{2} .\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \cos nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 0 \cdot \cos nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ x \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\sin nx}{n} \, dx \right\}$$

(using [integration by parts](#))

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left( \pi \frac{\sin n\pi}{n} - 0 \right) - \frac{1}{n} \left[ -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ (0 - 0) + \frac{1}{n^2} [\cos nx]_0^{\pi} \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi n^2} \{ \cos n\pi - \cos 0 \} = \frac{1}{\pi n^2} \{ (-1)^n - 1 \}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_n = \begin{cases} 0 & , n \text{ even} \\ -\frac{2}{\pi n^2} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}, \text{ see } \text{TRIG}.$$

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# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \sin nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 0 \cdot \sin nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \\ \text{i.e. } b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ x \left( -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \left( -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right\} \\&\quad \text{(using integration by parts)} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} [x \cos nx]_0^{\pi} + \frac{1}{n} \int_0^{\pi} \cos nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} (\pi \cos n\pi - 0) + \frac{1}{n} \left[ \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} \right\} \\&= -\frac{1}{n} (-1)^n + \frac{1}{\pi n^2} (0 - 0), \text{ see TRIG} \\&= -\frac{1}{n} (-1)^n\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\text{i.e. } b_n = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{n} & , n \text{ even} \\ +\frac{1}{n} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

We now have

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

$$\text{where } a_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad a_n = \begin{cases} 0 & , n \text{ even} \\ -\frac{2}{\pi n^2} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}, \quad b_n = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{n} & , n \text{ even} \\ \frac{1}{n} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

Constructing a table of values gives

$n$	1	2	3	4	5
$a_n$	$-\frac{2}{\pi}$	0	$-\frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{3^2}$	0	$-\frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{5^2}$
$b_n$	1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{5}$

# Fourier Series

This table of coefficients gives

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right) &+ \left( -\frac{2}{\pi} \right) \cos x + 0 \cdot \cos 2x \\&+ \left( -\frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{3^2} \right) \cos 3x + 0 \cdot \cos 4x \\&+ \left( -\frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{5^2} \right) \cos 5x + \dots \\&+ \sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } f(x) = \frac{\pi}{4} &- \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right] \\&+ \left[ \sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots \right]\end{aligned}$$



# Fourier Series

c) Pick an appropriate value of  $x$ , to show that

$$(i) \quad \frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots$$

Comparing this series with

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

the required series of constants does not involve terms like  $\frac{1}{3^2}, \frac{1}{5^2}, \frac{1}{7^2}, \dots$

So we need to pick a value of  $x$  that sets the  $\cos nx$  terms to zero.

The **TRIG** section shows that  $\cos n\frac{\pi}{2} = 0$  when  $n$  is odd, and note also that  $\cos nx$  terms in the Fourier series all have odd  $n$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \cos x = \cos 3x = \cos 5x = \dots = 0 \quad \text{when } x = \frac{\pi}{2},$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \cos \frac{\pi}{2} = \cos 3\frac{\pi}{2} = \cos 5\frac{\pi}{2} = \dots = 0$$

# Fourier Series

Setting  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$  in the series for  $f(x)$  gives

$$\begin{aligned}f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) &= \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos \frac{5\pi}{2} + \dots \right] \\&\quad + \left[ \sin \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin \frac{4\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5} \sin \frac{5\pi}{2} - \dots \right] \\&= \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} [0 + 0 + 0 + \dots] \\&\quad + \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\sin \pi}_{=0} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot (-1) - \frac{1}{4} \underbrace{\sin 2\pi}_{=0} + \frac{1}{5} \cdot (1) - \dots \right]\end{aligned}$$

The graph of  $f(x)$  shows that  $f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\pi}{2} &= \frac{\pi}{4} + 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots \\ \text{i.e. } \frac{\pi}{4} &= 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

Pick an appropriate value of  $x$ , to show that

$$(ii) \quad \frac{\pi^2}{8} = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots$$

Compare this series with

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

This time, we want to use the coefficients of the  $\cos nx$  terms, and the same choice of  $x$  needs to set the  $\sin nx$  terms to zero

Picking  $x = 0$  gives

$$\sin x = \sin 2x = \sin 3x = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \cos x = \cos 3x = \cos 5x = 1$$

Note also that the graph of  $f(x)$  gives  $f(x) = 0$  when  $x = 0$

# Fourier Series

Solutions to exercises

4

So, picking  $x = 0$  gives

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos 0 + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 0 + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 0 + \frac{1}{7^2} \cos 0 + \dots \right] \\&\quad + \sin 0 - \frac{\sin 0}{2} + \frac{\sin 0}{3} - \dots \\ \text{i.e. } 0 &= \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots \right] + 0 - 0 + 0 - \dots\end{aligned}$$

We then find that

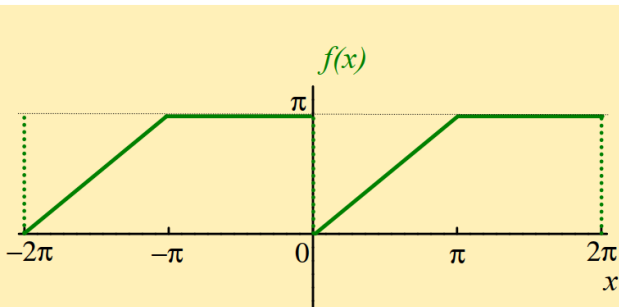
$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots \right] &= \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \text{and} \quad 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots &= \frac{\pi^2}{8}.\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

## Exercise 3.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < \pi \\ \pi, & \pi < x < 2\pi, \end{cases} \quad \text{and has period } 2\pi$$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$



# Fourier Series

## b) Fourier series representation of $f(x)$

### STEP ONE

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} f(x) dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} \pi \cdot dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^{\pi} + \frac{\pi}{\pi} [x]_{\pi}^{2\pi} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{\pi^2}{2} - 0 \right) + (2\pi - \pi) \\&= \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_0 = \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} \pi \cdot \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \underbrace{\left[ \left[ x \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\sin nx}{n} dx \right]}_{\text{using integration by parts}} + \frac{\pi}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \left( \pi \sin n\pi - 0 \cdot \sin n0 \right) - \left[ \frac{-\cos nx}{n^2} \right]_0^{\pi} \right] \\&\quad + \frac{1}{n} (\sin n2\pi - \sin n\pi)\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{n} (0 - 0) + \left( \frac{\cos n\pi}{n^2} - \frac{\cos 0}{n^2} \right) \right] + \frac{1}{n} (0 - 0) \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} (\cos n\pi - 1), \quad \text{see TRIG} \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} ((-1)^n - 1),\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_n = \begin{cases} -\frac{2}{n^2 \pi} & , n \text{ odd} \\ 0 & , n \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$



# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} \pi \cdot \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \underbrace{\left[ \left[ x \left( -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \left( -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right]}_{\text{using integration by parts}} + \frac{\pi}{\pi} \left[ \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \left( \frac{-\pi \cos n\pi}{n} + 0 \right) + \left[ \frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right]_0^{\pi} \right] - \frac{1}{n} (\cos 2n\pi - \cos n\pi) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{-\pi(-1)^n}{n} + \left( \frac{\sin n\pi - \sin 0}{n^2} \right) \right] - \frac{1}{n} (1 - (-1)^n) \\&= -\frac{1}{n}(-1)^n + 0 - \frac{1}{n}(1 - (-1)^n)\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\text{i.e. } b_n = -\frac{1}{n}(-1)^n - \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n}(-1)^n$$

$$\text{i.e. } b_n = -\frac{1}{n}.$$

We now have

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

$$\text{where } a_0 = \frac{3\pi}{2}, \quad a_n = \begin{cases} 0 & , n \text{ even} \\ -\frac{2}{n^2\pi} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}, \quad b_n = -\frac{1}{n}$$

Constructing a table of values gives

$n$	1	2	3	4	5
$a_n$	$-\frac{2}{\pi}$	0	$-\frac{2}{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{3^2} \right)$	0	$-\frac{2}{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{5^2} \right)$
$b_n$	-1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{5}$

# Fourier Series

This table of coefficients gives

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3\pi}{2} \right) + \left( -\frac{2}{\pi} \right) & \left[ \cos x + 0 \cdot \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \dots \right] \\ & + \left( -1 \right) \left[ \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e. } f(x) = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} & \left[ \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right] \\ - & \left[ \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

and we have found the required series.

# Fourier Series

c) Pick an appropriate value of  $x$ , to show that

$$(i) \frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots$$

Compare this series with

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

Here, we want to set the  $\cos nx$  terms to zero (since their coefficients are  $1, \frac{1}{3^2}, \frac{1}{5^2}, \dots$ ). Since  $\cos n\frac{\pi}{2} = 0$  when  $n$  is odd, we will try setting  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$  in the series. Note also that  $f(\frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{\pi}{2}$

This gives

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5\frac{\pi}{2} + \dots \right] \\ - \left[ \sin \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5\frac{\pi}{2} + \dots \right]$$

# Fourier Series

and

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\pi}{2} &= \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} [0 + 0 + 0 + \dots] \\ &\quad - [(1) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot (0) + \frac{1}{3} \cdot (-1) + \frac{1}{4} \cdot (0) + \frac{1}{5} \cdot (1) + \dots]\end{aligned}$$

then

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots\right)$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots = \frac{\pi}{4}, \quad \text{as required.}$$

To show that

$$\boxed{\text{(ii)} \quad \frac{\pi^2}{8} = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots},$$

We want zero  $\sin nx$  terms and to use the coefficients of  $\cos nx$

# Fourier Series



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Setting  $x = 0$  eliminates the  $\sin nx$  terms from the series, and also gives

$$\cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \frac{1}{7^2} \cos 7x + \dots = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots$$

(i.e. the desired series).

The graph of  $f(x)$  shows a discontinuity (a “vertical jump”) at  $x = 0$

The Fourier series converges to a value that is **half-way** between the two values of  $f(x)$  around this discontinuity. That is the series will converge to  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  at  $x = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e. } \frac{\pi}{2} &= \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos 0 + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 0 + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 0 + \frac{1}{7^2} \cos 0 + \dots \right] \\ &\quad - \left[ \sin 0 + \frac{1}{2} \sin 0 + \frac{1}{3} \sin 0 + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots \right] - [0 + 0 + 0 + \dots]$$

# Fourier Series

Finally, this gives

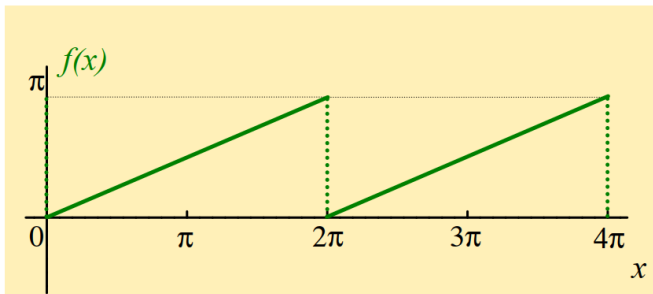
$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\pi}{4} &= -\frac{2}{\pi} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots \right) \\ \text{and } \frac{\pi^2}{8} &= 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{7^2} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

## Exercise 4.

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{2}, \text{ over the interval } 0 < x < 2\pi \text{ and has period } 2\pi$$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $0 < x < 4\pi$





# Fourier Series

b) Fourier series representation of  $f(x)$

STEP ONE

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{x}{2} \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{x^2}{4} \right]_0^{2\pi} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{(2\pi)^2}{4} - 0 \right]\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_0 = \pi.$$

# Fourier Series

## STEP TWO

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{x}{2} \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \underbrace{\left\{ \left[ x \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_0^{2\pi} - \frac{1}{n} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin nx \, dx \right\}}_{\text{using integration by parts}} \\&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left\{ \left( 2\pi \frac{\sin n2\pi}{n} - 0 \cdot \frac{\sin n \cdot 0}{n} \right) - \frac{1}{n} \cdot 0 \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left\{ (0 - 0) - \frac{1}{n} \cdot 0 \right\}, \text{ see TRIG} \\ \text{i.e. } a_n &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

## STEP THREE

$$\begin{aligned}b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right) \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \underbrace{\left\{ \left[ x \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi} - \int_0^{2\pi} \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right\}}_{\text{using integration by parts}} \\&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} (-2\pi \cos n2\pi + 0) + \frac{1}{n} \cdot 0 \right\}, \text{ see TRIG} \\&= \frac{-2\pi}{2\pi n} \cos(n2\pi) \\&= -\frac{1}{n} \cos(2n\pi) \\ \text{i.e. } b_n &= -\frac{1}{n}, \text{ since } 2n \text{ is even (see TRIG)}\end{aligned}$$

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# Fourier Series

We now have

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

where  $a_0 = \pi$ ,  $a_n = 0$ ,  $b_n = -\frac{1}{n}$

These Fourier coefficients give

$$f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( 0 - \frac{1}{n} \sin nx \right)$$

$$\text{i.e. } f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \left\{ \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \dots \right\}.$$

# Fourier Series

c) Pick an appropriate value of  $x$ , to show that

$$\boxed{\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots}$$

Setting  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$  gives  $f(x) = \frac{\pi}{4}$  and

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{2} - \left[ 1 + 0 - \frac{1}{3} + 0 + \frac{1}{5} + 0 - \dots \right]$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{2} - \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots \right]$$

$$\left[ 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots \right] = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

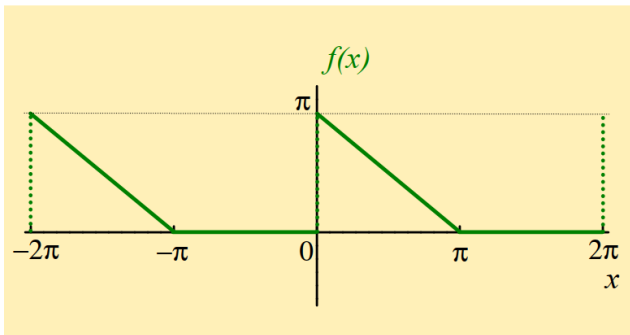
$$\text{i.e.} \quad 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

# Fourier Series

## Exercise 5.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \pi - x & , 0 < x < \pi \\ 0 & , \pi < x < 2\pi, \text{ and has period } 2\pi \end{cases}$$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$



# Fourier Series

## b) Fourier series representation of $f(x)$

### STEP ONE

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} 0 \cdot dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \pi x - \frac{1}{2} x^2 \right]_0^{\pi} + 0 \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \pi^2 - \frac{\pi^2}{2} - 0 \right] \\ \text{i.e. } a_0 &= \frac{\pi}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

## STEP TWO

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) \cos nx \, dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} 0 \cdot dx \\ \text{i.e. } a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \underbrace{\left[ (\pi - x) \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} (-1) \cdot \frac{\sin nx}{n} \, dx}_{\text{using integration by parts}} \right\} + 0 \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ (0 - 0) + \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\sin nx}{n} \, dx \right\} \quad , \text{ see TRIG} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi n} \left[ \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right]_0^{\pi} \\&= -\frac{1}{\pi n^2} (\cos n\pi - \cos 0) \\ \text{i.e. } a_n &= -\frac{1}{\pi n^2} ((-1)^n - 1) \quad , \text{ see TRIG}\end{aligned}$$



# Fourier Series

$$\text{i.e. } a_n = \begin{cases} 0 & , n \text{ even} \\ \frac{2}{\pi n^2} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

## STEP THREE

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) \sin nx \, dx + \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} 0 \cdot dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ (\pi - x) \left( -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} (-1) \cdot \left( -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right\} + 0 \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left( 0 - \left( -\frac{\pi}{n} \right) \right) - \frac{1}{n} \cdot 0 \right\}, \text{ see } \text{TRIG} \\ \text{i.e. } b_n &= \frac{1}{n}. \end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

In summary,  $a_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$  and a table of other Fourier coefficients is

$n$	1	2	3	4	5
$a_n = \frac{2}{\pi n^2}$ (when $n$ is odd)	$\frac{2}{\pi}$	0	$\frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{3^2}$	0	$\frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{5^2}$
$b_n = \frac{1}{n}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{5}$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore f(x) &= \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx] \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \cos x + \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \\ &\quad + \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + \dots \\ \text{i.e. } f(x) &= \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right] \\ &\quad + \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + \dots\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

c) To show that  $\left\lfloor \frac{\pi^2}{8} = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right\rfloor,$

note that, as  $x \rightarrow 0$ , the series converges to the half-way value of  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and then } \frac{\pi}{2} &= \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \left( \cos 0 + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 0 + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 0 + \dots \right) \\ &\quad + \sin 0 + \frac{1}{2} \sin 0 + \frac{1}{3} \sin 0 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right) + 0$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{2}{\pi} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right)$$

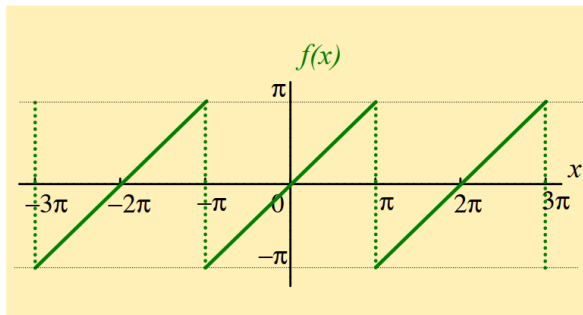
$$\text{giving } \frac{\pi^2}{8} = 1 + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## Exercise 6.

$f(x) = x$ , over the interval  $-\pi < x < \pi$  and has period  $2\pi$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-3\pi < x < 3\pi$



# Fourier Series

b) Fourier series representation of  $f(x)$

STEP ONE

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{\pi^2}{2} - \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_0 = 0.$$

# Fourier Series

## STEP TWO

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \underbrace{\left\{ \left[ x \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left( \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right) dx \right\}}_{\text{using integration by parts}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} (\pi \sin n\pi - (-\pi) \sin(-n\pi)) - \frac{1}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} (0 - 0) - \frac{1}{n} \cdot 0 \right\},\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{since } \sin n\pi = 0 \text{ and } \int_{2\pi} \sin nx \, dx = 0,$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_n = 0.$$

# Fourier Series

## STEP THREE

$$\begin{aligned}b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ \frac{-x \cos nx}{n} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} [x \cos nx]_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \frac{1}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} (\pi \cos n\pi - (-\pi) \cos(-n\pi)) + \frac{1}{n} \cdot 0 \right\} \\&= -\frac{\pi}{n\pi} (\cos n\pi + \cos n\pi) \\&= -\frac{1}{n} (2 \cos n\pi) \\ \text{i.e. } b_n &= -\frac{2}{n} (-1)^n.\end{aligned}$$

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# Fourier Series

We thus have

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

with  $a_0 = 0$ ,  $a_n = 0$ ,  $b_n = -\frac{2}{n}(-1)^n$

and

$n$	1	2	3
$b_n$	2	-1	$\frac{2}{3}$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= b_1 \sin x + b_2 \sin 2x + b_3 \sin 3x + \dots \\ \text{i.e. } f(x) &= 2 \left[ \sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$



# Fourier Series

c) Pick an appropriate value of  $x$ , to show that

$$\boxed{\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots}$$

Setting  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$  gives  $f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2}$  and

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = 2 \left[ \sin \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin \frac{4\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5} \sin \frac{5\pi}{2} - \dots \right]$$

This gives

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = 2 \left[ 1 + 0 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot (-1) - 0 + \frac{1}{5} \cdot (1) - 0 + \frac{1}{7} \cdot (-1) + \dots \right]$$

$$\frac{\pi}{2} = 2 \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots \right]$$

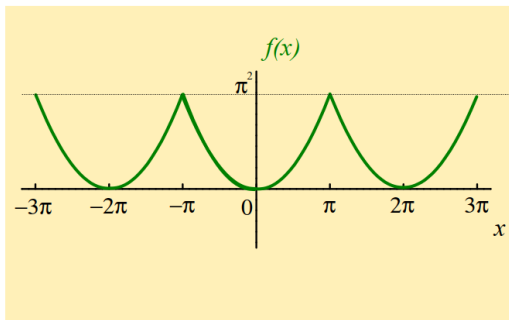
$$\text{i.e. } \frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots$$

# Fourier Series

## Exercise 7.

$$f(x) = x^2, \text{ over the interval } -\pi < x < \pi \text{ and has period } 2\pi$$

a) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$  in the interval  $-3\pi < x < 3\pi$



# Fourier Series

b) Fourier series representation of  $f(x)$

STEP ONE

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{\pi^3}{3} - \left( -\frac{\pi^3}{3} \right) \right) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{2\pi^3}{3} \right) \\&\text{i.e. } a_0 = \frac{2\pi^2}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

## STEP TWO

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \cos nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \underbrace{\left\{ \left[ x^2 \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 2x \left( \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right) dx \right\}}_{\text{using integration by parts}} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} (\pi^2 \sin n\pi - \pi^2 \sin(-n\pi)) - \frac{2}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} (0 - 0) - \frac{2}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \right\}, \text{ see TRIG} \\&= \frac{-2}{n\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } a_n &= \frac{-2}{n\pi} \underbrace{\left\{ \left[ x \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right\}}_{\text{using integration by parts again}} \\&= \frac{-2}{n\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} [x \cos nx]_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \frac{1}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{-2}{n\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} \left( \pi \cos n\pi - (-\pi) \cos(-n\pi) \right) + \frac{1}{n} \cdot 0 \right\} \\&= \frac{-2}{n\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} \left( \pi(-1)^n + \pi(-1)^n \right) \right\} \\&= \frac{-2}{n\pi} \left\{ \frac{-2\pi}{n} (-1)^n \right\}\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } a_n &= \frac{-2}{n\pi} \left\{ -\frac{2\pi}{n}(-1)^n \right\} \\ &= \frac{+4\pi}{\pi n^2}(-1)^n \\ &= \frac{4}{n^2}(-1)^n\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_n = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{n^2} & , n \text{ even} \\ \frac{-4}{n^2} & , n \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

# Fourier Series

## STEP THREE

$$\begin{aligned}b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \sin nx \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \underbrace{\left\{ \left[ x^2 \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 2x \cdot \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right\}}_{\text{using integration by parts}} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} [x^2 \cos nx]_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \frac{2}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} (\pi^2 \cos n\pi - \pi^2 \cos(-n\pi)) + \frac{2}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\frac{1}{n} \underbrace{(\pi^2 \cos n\pi - \pi^2 \cos(n\pi))}_{=0} + \frac{2}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx \right\} \\&= \frac{2}{\pi n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx\end{aligned}$$

# Fourier Series

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e. } b_n &= \frac{2}{\pi n} \underbrace{\left\{ \left[ x \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{\sin nx}{n} dx \right\}}_{\text{using integration by parts}} \\&= \frac{2}{\pi n} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} (\pi \sin n\pi - (-\pi) \sin(-n\pi)) - \frac{1}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx dx \right\} \\&= \frac{2}{\pi n} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} (0 + 0) - \frac{1}{n} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx dx \right\} \\&= \frac{-2}{\pi n^2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx dx \\ \text{i.e. } b_n &= 0.\end{aligned}$$



# Fourier Series

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

where  $a_0 = \frac{2\pi^2}{3}, \quad a_n = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{n^2} & , n \text{ even} \\ -\frac{4}{n^2} & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}, \quad b_n = 0$

$n$	1	2	3	4
$a_n$	$-4(1)$	$4\left(\frac{1}{2^2}\right)$	$-4\left(\frac{1}{3^2}\right)$	$4\left(\frac{1}{4^2}\right)$

$$\text{i.e. } f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{2\pi^2}{3} \right) - 4 \left[ \cos x - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x - \frac{1}{4^2} \cos 4x \dots \right] \\ + [0 + 0 + 0 + \dots]$$

$$\text{i.e. } f(x) = \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left[ \cos x - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x - \frac{1}{4^2} \cos 4x + \dots \right].$$

# Fourier Series

c) To show that

$$\boxed{\frac{\pi^2}{6} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots},$$

use the fact that  $\cos n\pi = \begin{cases} 1 & , n \text{ even} \\ -1 & , n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \cos x - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x - \frac{1}{4^2} \cos 4x + \dots \quad \text{with } x = \pi$$

$$\text{gives} \quad \cos \pi - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2\pi + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3\pi - \frac{1}{4^2} \cos 4\pi + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad (-1) - \frac{1}{2^2} \cdot (1) + \frac{1}{3^2} \cdot (-1) - \frac{1}{4^2} \cdot (1) + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad -1 - \frac{1}{2^2} - \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$$

$$= -1 \cdot \underbrace{\left(1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots\right)}_{\text{(the desired series)}}$$

# Fourier Series

The graph of  $f(x)$  gives that  $f(\pi) = \pi^2$  and the series converges to this value.

Setting  $x = \pi$  in the Fourier series thus gives

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

$$\pi^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left( -1 - \frac{1}{2^2} - \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} - \dots \right)$$

$$\pi^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots \right)$$

$$\frac{2\pi^2}{3} = 4 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots \right)$$

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{\pi^2}{6} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$$