

Fourier Analysis

Autumn 2016

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<http://www.jamescannon.net/teaching/fourier-analysis>
<http://raw.githubusercontent.com/NanoScaleDesign/FourierAnalysis/master/fourier.analysis.pdf>

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Chapter 0

Course information

0.1 This course

This is the Autumn 2016 Fourier Analysis course studied by 3rd-year undergraduate international students at Kyushu University.

0.1.1 How this works

- In contrast to the traditional lecture-homework model, in this course the learning is self-directed and active via publicly-available resources.
- Learning is guided through solving a series of carefully-developed challenges contained in this book, coupled with suggested resources that can be used to solve the challenges with instant feedback about the correctness of your answer.
- There are no lectures. Instead, there is discussion time. Here, you are encouraged to discuss any issues with your peers, teacher and any teaching assistants. Furthermore, you are encouraged to help your peers who are having trouble understanding something that you have understood; by doing so you actually increase your own understanding too.
- Discussion-time is from 10:30 to 12:00 on Wednesdays at room W4-529.
- Peer discussion is encouraged, however, if you have help to solve a challenge, always make sure you do understand the details yourself. You will need to be able to do this in an exam environment. If you need additional challenges to solidify your understanding, then ask the teacher. The questions on the exam will be similar in nature to the challenges. If you can do all of the challenges, you can get 100% on the exam.
- Every challenge in the book typically contains a **Challenge** with suggested **Resources** which you are recommended to utilise in order to solve the challenge. A **Solution** is made available in encrypted form. If your encrypted solution matches the encrypted solution given, then you know you have the correct answer and can move on. For more information about encryption, see section 0.3. Occasionally the teacher will provide extra **Comments** to help guide your thinking.
- For deep understanding, it is recommended to study the suggested resources beyond the minimum required to complete the challenge.
- The challenge document has many pages and is continuously being developed. Therefore it is advised to view the document on an electronic device rather than print it. The date on the front page denotes the version of the document. You will be notified by email when the document is updated.
- A target challenge will be set each week. This will set the pace of the course and defines the examinable material. It's ok if you can't quite reach the target challenge for a given week, but then you will be expected to make it up the next week.
- You may work ahead, even beyond the target challenge, if you so wish. This can build greater flexibility into your personal schedule, especially as you become busier towards the end of the semester.
- Your contributions to the course are strongly welcomed. If you come across resources that you found useful that were not listed by the teacher or points of friction that made solving a challenge difficult (there's no such thing as "you should have learned it in high-school" - you're probably not the only one with that specific problem), please let the teacher know about it!

0.1.2 Assessment

In order to prove to outside parties that you have learned something from the course, we must perform summative assessments. This will be in the form of

$$\text{overall score} = (0.5E_F + 0.3E_M + 0.2C)(0.9 + P/10)$$

Your final score is calculated as $\text{Max}(E_F, \text{overall score})$, however you must pass the final exam ($\geq 60\%$) to pass the course.

- E_F = % correct on final exam
- E_M = % correct on mid-term exam
- C = % grade on course-work
- P = participation calculated as $P = (F/N_D)(A/N_D)(L/N_L)$ where each terms is as follows
 - F = Number of weeks where feedback form is submitted 24 hours before discussion time (including spreadsheet update).
 - A = Number of discussion classes attended
 - N_D = Number of discussion classes held
 - L = Number of times that your collected challenge log is satisfactory. This means:
 - * Available on request.
 - * Your calculations are clearly shown.
 - * It corresponds to your spreadsheet.
 - * It contains evidence of trying to keep up with the target challenge. Short-term fluctuations in completing challenges are fine (eg, if you had trouble understanding material to overcome some challenges this week) but the long-term trend should be more-or-less to keep up with the target challenge.
 - N_L = Number of times that your challenge log is collected.

Note that P is only calculated from 26 October. If $N - F \leq 2$ then F is treated as being equal to N (ie, you can forget twice). You can be counted as attending the class even if you are not present if the reason for not attending is unavoidable (eg, health reasons) and you inform the teacher in advance.

Please also note that, since late arrivals disrupt the class by preventing intended pairing of students, attendance of a discussion class will be only counted as partial if you are more than a minute or two late (eg, 9 minutes late out of a 90-minute discussion class will count as attending only 90% of the class). Therefore, if you will be unavoidably late, you need to let the teacher know in advance. To allow for unexpected delays, for up to two late arrivals you will be considered to have attended 100% of the discussion time.

0.1.3 What you need to do

- Prepare a challenge-log in the form of a workbook or folder where you can clearly write the calculations you perform to solve each challenge. This will be a log of your progress during the course and will be occasionally reviewed by the teacher.
- You will need to maintain a google spreadsheet detailing your work and progress. The purpose of this spreadsheet is to help the teacher optimise the discussion-time. Please ensure that it is up-to-date 24 hours before each discussion-time starts. It is fine for you to continue to work on challenges and update the spreadsheet after the 24-hour deadline.
- You also need to submit a brief report at <https://goo.gl/forms/Djl4FEZcJLMpipsY2> 24 hours before the discussion time starts. Here you can let the teacher know about any difficulties you are having and if you would like to discuss anything in particular.

- Please bring a wifi-capable internet device to class, as well as headphones if you need to access online components of the course during class. If you let me know in advance, I can lend computers and provide power extension cables for those who require them (limited number).

0.1.4 Details about the spreadsheet

To get started:

1. Log into google
2. Open <http://bit.ly/2cPYyQY>
3. File → Make a copy [→ rename] → ok
4. Click “Share” (top right)
5. Click “Get shareable link”
6. Set “Anyone with the link can edit”
7. Copy sharing address
8. Send an email to cannon@mech.kyushu-u.ac.jp containing
 - (a) Subject: Fourier Analysis registration
 - (b) Your name
 - (c) Student number
 - (d) The link to your copy of the google sheet

Using the spreadsheet:

- Enter the appropriate challenge number. For example, for challenge 1.4, enter “1” in the **Section** column and “4” in the **Challenge** column.
- After successfully completing a challenge, please enter any particular friction points that you experienced (if any) so the course can be developed to reduce such friction in the future, as well as any extra resources you recommend (if any).
- Please also roughly estimate the amount of effort in required to complete the challenge (starting from when you completed the previous challenge, including any reading, watching videos, looking for resources, writing the answer to the challenge, discussing with peers, etc). This is not used for assessment in any way, but is very valuable in helping the teacher develop the course. Note: Although the column says **Hours**, please specify the time in terms of **minutes**.

Note: Please do not alter column names, ordering, etc. Just add section and challenge numbering and fill in the columns as appropriate. This is because spreadsheet data is downloaded and automatically analysed, and it breaks if anything is inconsistent.

0.2 Timetable

	Discussion	Target	Note
1	5 Oct	-	
2	12 Oct	1.8	
3	19 Oct	2.9	
4	26 Oct	2.11	
5	2 Nov	2.15	
6	9 Nov	2.20	
7	16 Nov	2.26	
8	30 Nov	3.6	
9	7 Dec	Midterm exam	Coursework instructions
10	14 Dec		
11	21 Dec		
12	11 Jan		Submission of coursework
13	18 Jan		
14	25 Jan		
15	8 Feb	Final exam	

0.3 Hash-generation

Most solutions to challenges are encrypted using MD5 hashes. In order to check your solution, you need to generate its MD5 hash and compare it to that provided. MD5 hashes can be generated at the following sites:

- Wolfram alpha: (For example: md5 hash of “q_1.00”) http://www.wolframalpha.com/input/?i=md5+hash+of+%22q_1.00%22
- www.md5hashgenerator.com

Since MD5 hashes are very sensitive to even single-digit variation, you must enter the solution exactly. This means maintaining a sufficient level of accuracy when developing your solution, and then entering the solution according to the format below:

Unless specified otherwise, any number from 0.00 to ± 9999.99 should be represented as a normal number to two decimal places. All other numbers should be in scientific form. See the table below for examples.

Solution	Input
1	1.00
-3	-3.00
-3.5697	-3.57
0.05	0.05
0.005	5.00e-3
50	50.00
500	500.00
5000	5000.00
50,000	5.00e4
5×10^{-476}	5.00e-476
5.0009×10^{-476}	5.00e-476
$-\infty$	-infinity (never “infinite”)
2π	6.28
i	im(1.00)
2i	im(2.00)
$1 + 2i$	re(1.00)im(2.00)
$-0.0002548 i$	im(-2.55e-4)
$1/i = i/-1 = -i$	im(-1.00)
$e^{i2\pi} [= \cos(2\pi) + i\sin(2\pi) = 1 + i0 = 1]$	1.00
$e^{i\pi/3} [= \cos(\pi/3) + i\sin(\pi/3) = 0.5 + i0.87]$	re(0.50)im(0.87)
Choices in order A, B, C, D	abcd

Entry format is given with the problem. So “q_X” means to enter “q_X” replacing “X” with your solution. The first 6 digits of the MD5 sum should match the given solution (MD5(q_X)= ...).

Note that although some answers can usually only be integers (eg, number of elephants), for consistency, to generate the correct hash, the accuracy in terms of decimal places noted above is required.

Chapter 1

Periods and frequencies

1.1 Period at 50 THz

Resources

- Book: 1.2 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Challenge

A signal is oscillating at a frequency of 50 THz. What is the period?

Solution

X s

MD5(q_X) = 33efc2...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

1.2 Fundamental period with $k=1$

Resources

- Book: 1.3 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Challenge

What is the fundamental period of $\sin(2\pi kt)$, where t is time in seconds and $k = 1$?

Solution

X s

MD5(w_X) = 9ae2db...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

1.3 Frequency with $k=1$

Resources

- Book: 1.3 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Challenge

What is the frequency of $\sin(2\pi kt)$, where t is time in seconds and $k = 1$?

Solution

X Hz

MD5(e_X) = 453c99...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

1.4 Frequency with $k=2$

Resources

- Book: 1.3 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Challenge

What is the frequency of $\sin(2\pi kt)$, where t is time in seconds and $k = 2$?

Solution

X Hz

MD5(r_X) = 111802...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

1.5 Fundamental period with $k=2$

Resources

- Book: 1.3 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Challenge

What is the fundamental period of $\sin(2\pi kt)$, where t is time in seconds and $k = 2$?

Solution

X s

MD5(t_X) = c4c8be...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

1.6 Fundamental period with multiple terms

Resources

- Book: 1.3-1.4 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftae261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Comments

So k here is proportional to the frequency. Double k and the frequency doubles. Every “step” around the circle drawn by the sine curve becomes 2 steps when $k = 2$, so within half the time you are already one time around the circle for $k = 2$, and thus the number of times you go around the circle during one second (measured with t) is twice rather than once. k is also inversely proportional to the period. Since with $k = 2$ every “step” is now twice as large, so one completes the circle in half the time.

Even with multiple terms (frequencies), the period of the composite signal is always that of the highest (longest) period (lowest frequency), even if it is composed of multiple frequencies. You have to wait for every part of the signal to complete before a single period is complete. Ie, it is possible to add new frequencies to a signal without the period changing.

Challenge

What is the fundamental period of $\sin(2\pi t) + \sin(4\pi t)$, where t is time in seconds?



Solution

X s

MD5(y_X) = 80681b...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

1.7 Amplitude

Resources

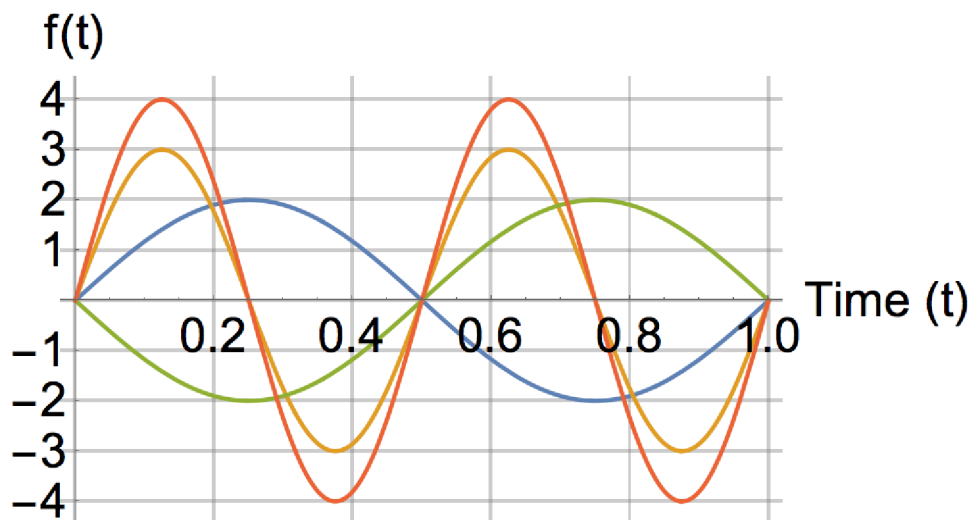
- Book: 1.3 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Comments

Another important concept is amplitude. $\sin(2\pi t)$ has an amplitude of 1, but this can be easily modified to go between $\pm A$ by multiplication with A .

Challenge

The following 4 graphs are of the form $A\sin(2\pi kt)$ with variation in the values of A and k *only*. What is the sum of the values of A for the following graphs?



Solution

X

MD5(u_X) = 7bcfe4...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

1.8 Phase

Resources

- Book: 1.3 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Comments

Another important concept is phase. For a simple Sine signal $\theta(t) = \sin(2\pi t)$, at $t = 0$ the angle θ is zero, but one can shift the phase (starting point) of the signal by effectively making the sine-curve non-zero at $t = 0$. Another way to think about it is to say the sine curve doesn't reach zero until a time $t - \phi$ where ϕ is the phase-shift added.

Challenge

The following 4 graphs are of the form $\sin(2\pi t + \phi)$ where ϕ is the phase-shift. Put the graphs in order corresponding to the following order of phase-shifts: $\pi/2$, $-\pi/2$, $\pi/4$, 2π .



Solution

X

MD5(i_X) = 547005...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

Chapter 2

Fourier Series

2.1 Introduction to Fourier coefficients

Resources

- Book: 1.4 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Challenge

Deduce in a simple way the Fourier coefficients a_1 and b_1 in the Fourier series

$$\sum_{k=1}^N a_k \cos(2\pi kt) + b_k \sin(2\pi kt) \quad (2.1)$$

for a signal made up of multiple sine signals

$$\sum_{k=1}^N A_k \sin(2\pi kt + \phi_k) \quad (2.2)$$

for the following cases:

1. $N = 1, k = 1, A_1 = 1, \phi_1 = 0$
2. $N = 1, k = 1, A_1 = 1, \phi_1 = \pi/2$
3. $N = 1, k = 1, A_1 = 1, \phi_1 = \pi/5$

Hint: Using $\sin(A+B) = \sin(A)\cos(B) + \cos(A)\sin(B)$ it should be possible to find the answer without resorting to complex calculation.

Solutions

1. $\text{MD5}(\text{o}_{a_k}) = \text{a2c1fe} \dots, \text{MD5}(\text{p}_{b_k}) = \text{de80c6} \dots$
2. $\text{MD5}(\text{a}_{a_k}) = \text{718a6c} \dots, \text{MD5}(\text{s}_{b_k}) = \text{f86f0c} \dots$
3. $\text{MD5}(\text{d}_{a_k}) = \text{93d647} \dots, \text{MD5}(\text{f}_{b_k}) = \text{9a7b58} \dots$

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.2 Even and odd functions

Resources

- Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Even_and_odd_functions

Challenge

Referring in part to the cases in challenge 2.1, sum the points of all the following TRUE statements:

1 point: Case 1 is an odd function

2 points: Case 1 is an even function

4 points: Case 2 is an odd function

8 points: Case 2 is an even function

16 point: Case 3 is an odd function

32 points: Case 3 is an even function

64 points: $f(x) = \sin(x)$ is an odd function

128 points: $f(x) = \sin(x)$ is an even function

256 points: $f(x) = \cos(x)$ is an odd function

512 points: $f(x) = \cos(x)$ is an even function

1024 points: $f(x) = x$ is an odd function

2048 points: $f(x) = x$ is an even function

Solution

X

MD5(g_X) = 6a18c0...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.3 Fourier coefficients of $\sin(x)$

Resources

- Book: 1.4 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Comments

You should be able to follow the derivation of the formula for Fourier coefficients (C_k 's) in the video. Feel free to seek help if you have trouble.

Challenge

1. Write $\sin(x)$ in exponential form.
2. Expand the Fourier series for the function $f(x)$ within the limit $k = -1$ to $k = 1$.
3. Deduce the Fourier coefficients (C_k 's) for the function $\sin(x)$. *This should be possible by inspection, rather than any significant calculation.*

Solutions

$$C_{-1}: \text{MD5(h_X)} = 28\text{f}251\dots$$

$$C_0: \text{MD5(j_X)} = 4\text{f}\text{d}3\text{f}6\dots$$

$$C_1: \text{MD5(k_X)} = \text{e}82\text{a}2\text{a}\dots$$

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.4 Fourier Coefficients of $1 + \sin(x)$

Resources

- Book: 1.4 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Comments

You should be able to follow the derivation of the formula for Fourier coefficients in the video. Feel free to seek help if you have trouble.

Challenge

Using the same approach as challenge 2.3, deduce for the function $1 + \sin(x)$ the following Fourier coefficients:

Solutions

$$C_{-1}: \text{MD5}(z_X) = 39e026\dots$$

$$C_0: \text{MD5}(x_X) = 0ef183\dots$$

$$C_1: \text{MD5}(c_X) = 89b992\dots$$

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.5 Relation of positive and negative Fourier coefficients for a real signal

Resources

- Book: 1.4 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Challenge

If the Fourier coefficient C_1 is $4 + 6i$, what is the Fourier coefficient C_{-1} ?

Solution

X

MD5(m_X) = 36ab38...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.7 The Fourier series of $f(t) = t$: C_0

Resources

- Book: 1.5, 1.7 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 3 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjBb5I1rNsQ>)

Challenge

Considering the function $f(t) = t$ over the interval 0 to 1, calculate the Fourier coefficient C_0 using the derived formula for Fourier coefficients. Compare with the average over the interval.

Solution

X

MD5(aa_X) = 2708ad...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____minutes

2.8 The Fourier series of $f(t) = t$: C_k

Resources

- Book: 1.5, 1.7 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 3 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjBb5IlrNsQ>)

Challenge

Considering the function $f(t) = t$, calculate a general expression for the Fourier coefficients C_k where $k \neq 0$.

To check your answer, evaluate the Fourier coefficient for $k = -30$.

Solution

X

MD5(bb_X) = 8005c7...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.9 The Fourier series of $f(t) = t$ in exponential form

Resources

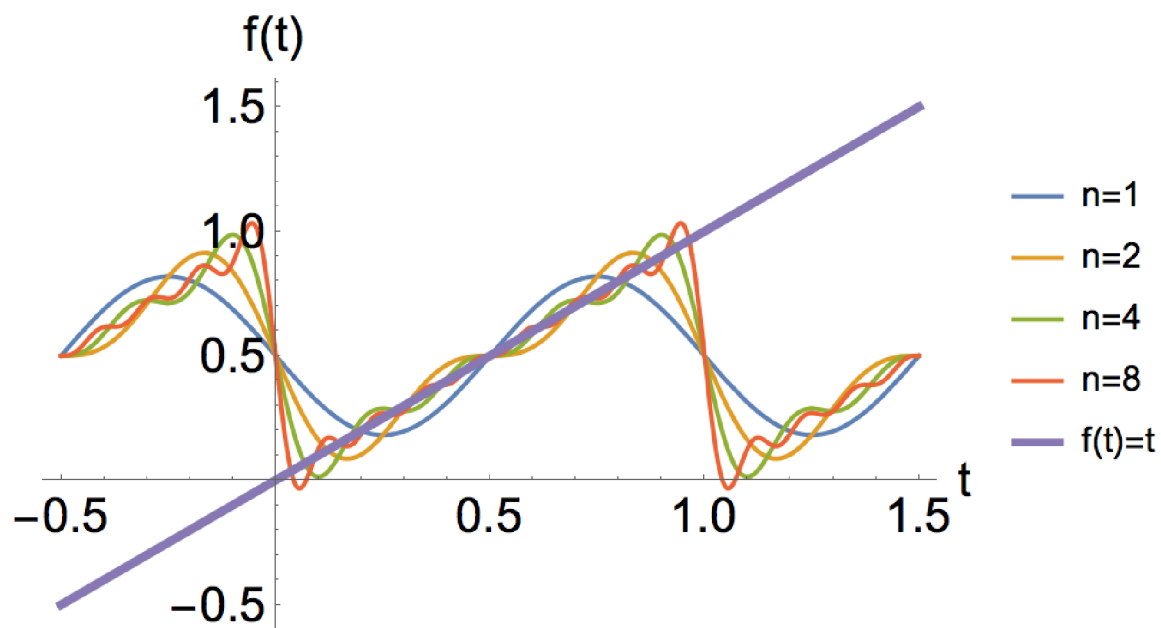
- Book: 1.4 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 3 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjBb5IlrNsQ>)

Challenge

Write the function $f(t) = t$ in terms of its infinite exponential Fourier series.

To check your answer, evaluate the Fourier series up to $n = 2$ with $t = 0.8$.

The graph with increasing values of n looks like this:



Solution

X

MD5(cc_X) = d21e19...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.10 The Fourier series of $f(t) = t$ in trigonometric form

Resources

- Book: 1.5, 1.7 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 2 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rqJl7Rs6ps>)

Comment

Since cosine and sine can be written in terms of exponentials, it is possible to switch between Fourier series that are expressed in terms of exponentials and Fourier series that are expressed in terms of sines and cosines. Many textbooks will actually work in terms of these trigonometric forms. Where only sine terms are involved, it is called a “Fourier sine series” and where only cosines are involved it’s termed a “Fourier cosine series”. The series have coefficients a_0 , a_k and b_k , in the following fashion:

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{k=N} a_k \cos(2\pi kt) + b_k \sin(2\pi kt) \quad (2.3)$$

Note that the sum here goes from $k = 1$ to $k = N$, in contrast to the exponential form of Fourier series which goes between $k = \pm N$.

Challenge

1. Re-write the series obtained in challenge 2.9 in terms of a trigonometric infinite series (ie, using sines and cosines). To check your answer, evaluate the Fourier series up to $k = 2$ with $t = 0.8$ and ensure that you get the same answer as you did for challenge 2.9.
2. You should find you are left with an expression only in terms of sine or cosine. Which is it, and how is this related to even/odd functions?

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.11 Periods other than unity

Resources

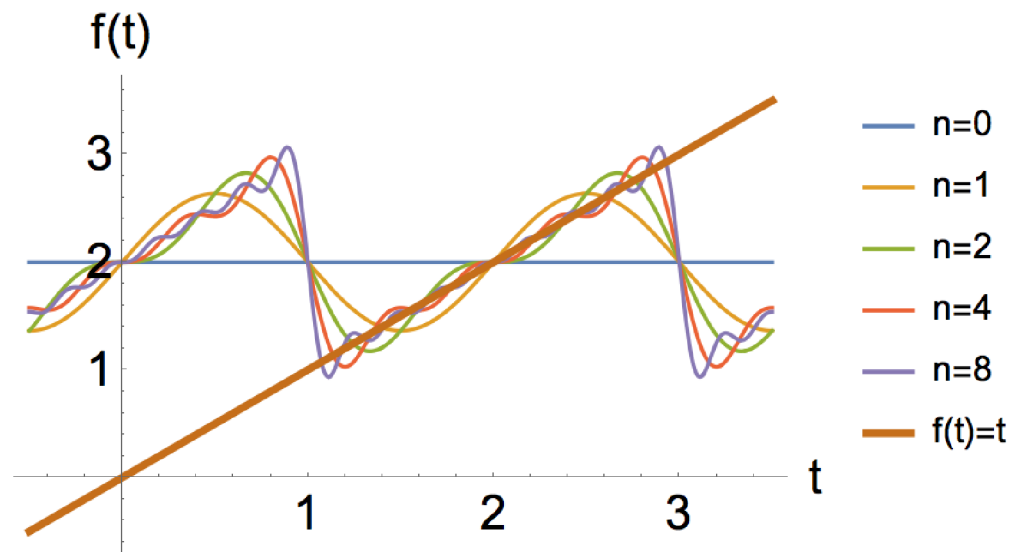
- Book: 1.6 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)

Challenge

Determine the Fourier series for the same function as in 2.9 ($f(t) = t$), except approximate the function over the region $1 < x < 3$ instead of $0 < x < 1$.

To check your answer, evaluate the Fourier series up to $n = 2$ with $t = 1.8$.

The graph with increasing values of n looks like this:



Solution

X

MD5(dd_X) = 83e943...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.12 Infinite series

Comment

It is important to understand why some series are infinite, while others are not (well, technically all series are infinite since they all involve sums to $n = \infty$, however for some series the Fourier coefficients are all zero above a certain value of n). Therefore, make sure you understand why the answer is as it is, below. If you don't, be sure to discuss with others.

Challenge

1. The Fourier series is a sum to $\pm\infty$, however in some cases the coefficients (C_k 's) are zero beyond a certain number of terms. Which of the terms below will have Fourier coefficients that are all zero after a certain number of terms? Sum the points of these functions.

1 point: x

2 points: x^2

4 points: $\cos(2x) + 3\sin(7x)$

8 points: $e^{2\pi ix}$

2. Briefly explain the characteristics of functions that lead to infinite Fourier series and finite Fourier series.

Solution

X

MD5(ee_X) = 8e05a4...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.13 k-symmetry

Challenge

Determine what X and Y represent algebraically.

$$\cos(k\pi t) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-ki\pi t} + \frac{1}{2}e^{\mathbf{X}i\pi t} \quad (2.4)$$

$$\sin(k\pi t) = \frac{1}{2}ie^{\mathbf{Y}i\pi t} - \frac{1}{2}ie^{ki\pi t} \quad (2.5)$$

To check your answers you may substitute any appropriate values from the following list: $k = 2, t = 1$

Solution

X

MD5(ff_X) = 942d6f...

Y

MD5(gg_Y) = a379b8...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.14 Direct trigonometric calculation of a Fourier series: the coefficients

Comment

This challenge introduces several key concepts at once, including decoupling of integral intervals and periodicity, the concept of a square wave and direct trigonometric evaluation of Fourier series. If you can master this you'll be in a really strong position.

It is hopefully clear now that for real signals, due to the symmetry of the positive and negative k 's, one can fully compose Fourier series in terms of sine and cosine. In challenge 2.10 we saw the formula for the function in terms of Fourier coefficients a_0 , a_n and b_n . While we will not use this approach, it is important to be able to utilise such a formulation since this is the way some books present it and some people have learnt it. Therefore, without proof, the coefficients can be calculated using

$$a_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} f(t) \cos(2\pi kt/T) \quad (2.6)$$

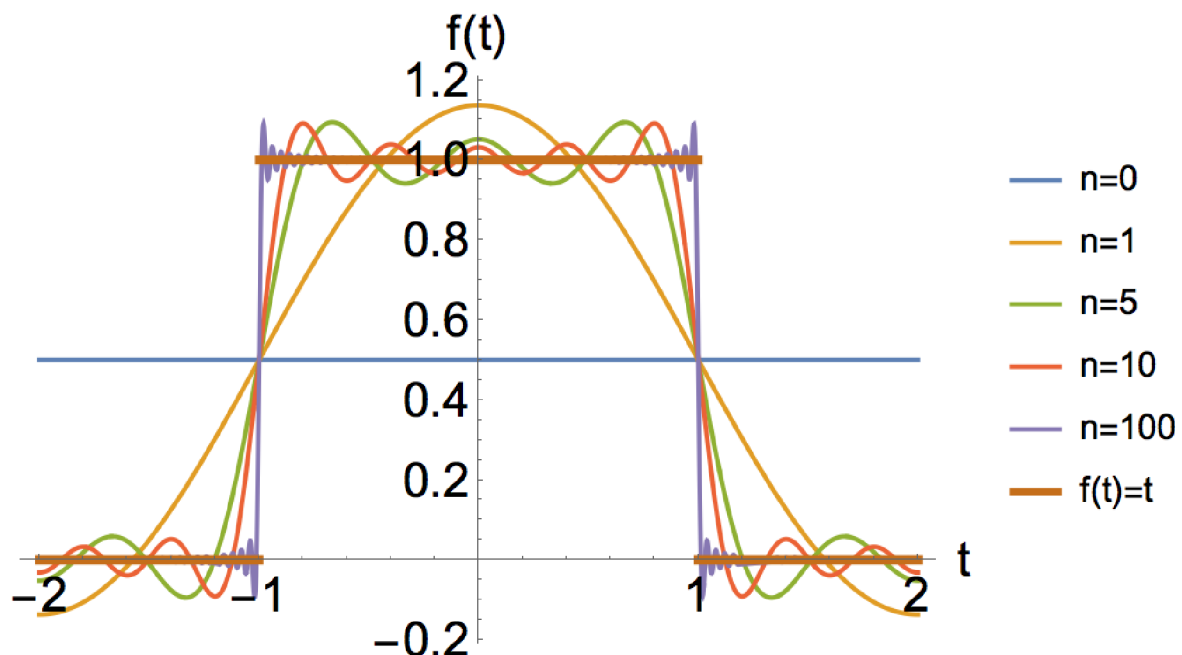
$$b_k = \frac{2}{T} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} f(t) \sin(2\pi kt/T) \quad (2.7)$$

Challenge

Using the direct trigonometric Fourier series, obtain a general expression for the a_k and b_k coefficients for the square-wave signal with periodicity 4

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } -1 < t < 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } 1 < t < 3 \end{cases} \quad (2.8)$$

A graph of the function, including the solution for various values of n , is shown here:



Note the symmetry of the problem. Can you see what terms will be zero? To check your solution, calculate a_k and b_k for $k = 0$, $k = 2$ and $k = 3$. Also note that you will have to break the integrals into two parts and sum them in order to tackle this problem.

Solution

k	a_k	b_k
0	MD5(hh_X)=e57c15...	MD5(ii_X)=377fe2...
2	MD5(jj_X)=54aaa1...	MD5(kk_X)=be063f...
3	MD5(mm_X)=b8fce7...	MD5(nn_X)=b6fbaf...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.15 Direct trigonometric calculation of a Fourier series: the series

Challenge

Calculate the Fourier series for the square wave introduced in challenge 2.14 using direct trigonometric calculation for up to $n = 3$. Check your solution by evaluating for $t = 0.1$.

Solution

X

MD5(oo_X) = bd7e5e...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____minutes

2.16 2D orthogonal vectors

Resources

- Book: 1.9 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)

Challenge

Sum the points of the vectors in 2D that are orthogonal:

1 point: (5, 4) and (-1, 1.25)

2 points: (2, -3) and (-6, 4)

4 points: (-2.25, 1.5) and (2, 3)

8 points: (4.5, 4) and (3, -3.375)

16 points: (6, 4) and (4, -6)

32 points: (5, 1) and (-2, 8.125)

64 points: (0, 1) and (1, 0)

128 points: (1, 1) and (1, 1)

Solution

X

MD5(pp_X) = 92843f...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.17 Orthonormal basis

Resources

- Video: <https://www.khanacademy.org/math/linear-algebra/alternate-bases/orthonormal-basis/v/linear-algebra-introduction-to-orthonormal-bases>

Challenge

Sum the points of the following vectors that form an orthonormal basis:

1 point : $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}})$ and $(\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{4}{\sqrt{5}})$

2 points: $(\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}})$ and $(\frac{-1}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}})$

4 points: $(\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{7}{8}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}})$, $(-\sqrt{\frac{2}{5}}, \frac{7}{\sqrt{14}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}})$ and $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{5\sqrt{3}}, -\frac{7}{5\sqrt{3}})$

8 points: $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{21}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{21}}, \frac{4}{\sqrt{21}})$, $(-\sqrt{\frac{2}{7}}, \frac{3}{\sqrt{14}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{14}})$ and $(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}})$

16 points: $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}})$, $(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{5}, -\frac{3}{5\sqrt{2}})$ and $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{5\sqrt{3}}, -\frac{7}{5\sqrt{3}})$

32 points: $(0, 2)$ and $(2, 0)$

64 points: $(0, 1)$ and $(1, 0)$

Solution

X

MD5(qq-X) = 097fd7...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.18 Natural basis

Resources

- Book: 1.9 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)

Challenge

Sum the components of the following vectors of an orthonormal basis in \mathbb{R}^{300} space:

- First component of the first vector
- first component of the second vector
- 200th component of the 100th vector
- 200th component of the 200th vector
- last component of the 299th vector
- last component of the last vector

Solution

X

MD5(rr_X) = 095c77...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.19 Orthonormal basis for Fourier series

Resources

- Book: 1.9 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 4 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5lBM7nn2eA>)

Comment

The previous challenges have focussed on the orthogonality and orthonormality of vectors. We now make the jump to functions. As chapter 1.9 explains, although its not perfect, the analogy between vectors and functions is a good way to help understand and visualise the role that the terms of a Fourier series play in defining a basis upon which to describe a function.

Challenge

Starting from the inner product of two terms $(e^{2\pi i k_1 t}, e^{2\pi i k_2 t})$ of a Fourier series, demonstrate that the terms of a Fourier series form an orthonormal basis. **Show a full derivation.**

To check your intuition, you may evaluate the following cases:

$$X = (e^{2\pi i k_1 t}, e^{2\pi i k_1 t})$$

$$Y = (e^{2\pi i k_1 t}, e^{2\pi i k_2 t})$$

Solution

If you are not confident about your derivation, please check with someone else. If there is any step that you do not fully understand, do not hesitate to ask. If you do not understand the connection between previous challenges on vectors and this challenge using functions, do not hesitate to ask someone.

X

MD5(ss_X) = 8f7f41...

Y

MD5(tt_Y) = 2c669b...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

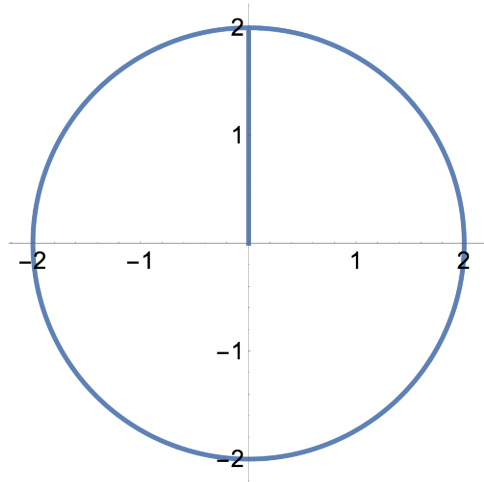
2.20 Circles and Fourier series

Resources

- Video 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9pYHDSxc7g>
- Video 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LznjC4Lo7lE>

Comment

In the first lecture we saw how it was possible to approximate any function given enough circles. Here we link what you have learned back to that first lecture. I strongly recommend viewing the fun and informative videos listed here under Resources. In summary, by building a Fourier series you are representing a function using an orthonormal basis, where each component of the basis can be considered visually as a circle operating with individual radius and frequency on the real-imaginary plane. If, after completing this challenge, that last sentence makes sense to you, then you have achieved the first major goal of this course.



Challenge

Treating the x-axis as the real axis and the y-axis as the imaginary axis, arrange the equations below in the following order:

1. A point moving round on a circle with radius 2 units and frequency 2 Hz
2. A point moving round on a circle with radius 3 units and frequency 1 Hz
3. A point moving round on a circle with radius 2 units and a period of 1 second
4. A point moving round on a circle with radius 3 units and a period of 2 seconds

Equations:

$Ae^{2\pi ikt}$ where t is time in seconds and the values of A and k are as follows:

A: $A = 2$, $k = 2$

B: $A = 3$, $k = 1$

C: $A = 3$, $k = 0.5$

D: $A = 2$, $k = 1$

Solution

X

MD5(uu_X) = cb7845...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.21 Gibb's phenomenon

Resources

- Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gibbs_phenomenon
- Book: 1.18 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)

Challenge

Write a few sentences summarising your understanding of what Gibb's phenomenon is. By what percentage does overshoot of a discontinuity occur given an infinite number of terms?

Solution

X %

MD5(vv_X) = aa19f2...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.22 Partial derivatives

Challenge

Determine u_t and u_{xx} for the equation

$$u(x, t) = 5tx^2 + 3t - x \quad (2.9)$$

To check your answer, substitute $x = 3$ and $t = 2$ into your answers, as appropriate.

Solution

u_t : MD5(ww_X) = 7901cb...

u_{xx} : MD5(xx_X) = 6aba1c...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.23 Heat equation: Periodicity

Resources

- Lecture 4 from 37:00 onwards: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5lBM7nn2eA>), continuing at the start of lecture 5 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5qRpgfQld4>)

Comment

Please follow the derivation of the heat equation shown in the videos in lectures 4-5. This use of Fourier series is a great example of how the relatively abstract mathematical concepts covered by the course so-far can have real physical applications in science and engineering.

Challenge

Add the points of the following true statements concerning a heated ring with circumference 1 and temperature distribution described by $u(x, t)$:

1 point: $u(x, t) = u(x, t)$

2 points: $u(x, t) = u(x, t + 1)$

4 points: $u(x, t) = u(x, t + 2)$

8 points: $u(x, t) = u(x + 1, t)$

16 points: $u(x, t) = u(x + 1, t + 1)$

32 points: $u(x, t) = u(x + 1, t + 2)$

64 points: $u(x, t) = u(x + 2, t)$

128 points: $u(x, t) = u(x + 2, t + 1)$

256 points: $u(x, t) = u(x + 2, t + 2)$

512 points: The temperature distribution is periodic in space but not time

1024 points: The temperature distribution is periodic in time but not space

2048 points: The temperature distribution is periodic in both space and time

4096 points: The temperature distribution is periodic neither in space nor time

Solution

X

MD5(yy_X) = ed4019...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.24 Heat equation: Fourier coefficients

Resources

- Lecture 4 from 37:00 onwards: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n51BM7nn2eA>), continuing at the start of lecture 5 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5qRpgfQld4>)

Challenge

Starting from the heat (diffusion) equation $u_t = u_{xx}/2$, show that the Fourier coefficient at time t is given by

$$C_k(t) = C_k(0)e^{-2\pi^2 k^2 t} \quad (2.10)$$

Solution

Compare with your peers during discussion time and please ask if there is anything you do not understand.

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.25 Heat equation

Resources

- Lecture 4 from 37:00 onwards: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n51BM7nn2eA>), continuing at the start of lecture 5 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5qRpgfQld4>)

Comment

Note that the exponential in the answer for $B(t)$ is negative, leading to a decay to mean ambient temperature over time (you can think of the temperature $u(x, t)$ as the temperature relative to the surrounding environment rather than absolute temperature measured in Kelvin).

Challenge

Write the heat equation and its Fourier coefficient in the form below. Identify $A(x)$, $B(t)$ and $C(x)$. To check your answers, substitute $k = 1$, $x = 2$ and $t = 3$ into the expressions (purely for checking the solution; these numbers have no physical basis).

$$\hat{f}(k) = \int_0^1 A(x)f(x)dx \quad (2.11)$$

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{k=\infty} \hat{f}(k)B(t)C(x) \quad (2.12)$$

Solution

A: MD5(zz_X) = ffef92...

B: MD5(aaa_X) = c04067...

C: MD5(bbb_X) = ae8c65...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

2.26 Heat equation derivation

Resources

- Lecture 4 from 37:00 onwards: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5lBM7nn2eA>), continuing at the start of lecture 5 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5qRpgfQld4>)

Challenge

Continuing from challenge 2.24, derive the expression found in challenge 2.25 for the temperature on a ring of unit length as a function of position and time using Fourier series.

Solution

Please check your derivation with your peers. The teacher will also review your derivation during challenge-log collection.

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

Chapter 3

Fourier Transform

3.1 The transition to the Fourier Transform

Resources

- Book: Chapter 2 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video I: Last part of lecture 5 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5qRpgfQld4>)
- Video II: First part of lecture 6 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41cvR0AtN.Q>)

Comment

Until now we have been considering Fourier series which allows us to describe periodic phenomena. This can however cause issues, such as in challenge 2.9 or 2.11 when the function isn't actually periodic, since the derived fourier series results in periodicity outside the region of integration. The Fourier transform can help overcome this limitation and accurately describe signals which are non-periodic.

The suggested resources provide an excellent intuitive path to the connection between Fourier Series and Fourier Transforms, and this challenge is designed to give you the opportunity to take some time to try to understand the main concepts behind the transition.

Challenge

Imagine you are writing a letter to a student, explaining about the basis for the Fourier transform. You may assume that the student knows about Fourier series well, but nothing about Fourier transforms. Explain about the transition, including descriptions of the concepts, equations and variables involved. Please use the suggested resources above as a basis for the description, however you may also use additional resources too if you cite them. A length of about 1 side of A4 is suggested, although you may use more if you feel it is necessary. Please write neatly and clearly, since the intention is to share your description with the teacher and other students. You may do this in hand-written or digital form.

Solution

After completion, please read at least 2 other students' interpretations. The teacher will also review the contents to help ensure sufficient understanding of the concepts, and may publish your description for everyone to learn from (if you want this to be anonymous, please add a note saying this).

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

3.2 Fourier transform notation

Resources

- Book: Chapter 2 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 6 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lcVR0AtN_Q)

Challenge

Add the points of the legitimate forms of Fourier notation:

1 point: $\mathcal{F}f(w) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iwt} f(t) dt$

2 points: $\mathcal{F}f(w) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i2\pi wt} f(t) dt$

4 points: $\mathcal{F}f(w) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iwt} f(t) dt$

8 points: $\mathcal{F}f(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\pi st} f(t) dt$

16 points: $\mathcal{F}f(w) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i2\pi wt} f(t) dt$

32 points: $\mathcal{F}f(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ist} f(t) dt$

Solution

MD5(eee_X) = 58851c...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

3.3 L'Hôpital's rule

Challenge

Use L'Hôpital's rule to determine the limit of

$$\frac{\sin(x)}{x} \tag{3.1}$$

as $x \rightarrow 0$.

Solution

MD5(ccc_X) = 9cc92f...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

3.4 Fourier transform of a window function

Resources

- Book: Chapter 2 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 6 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lcVR0AtN_Q)

Comments

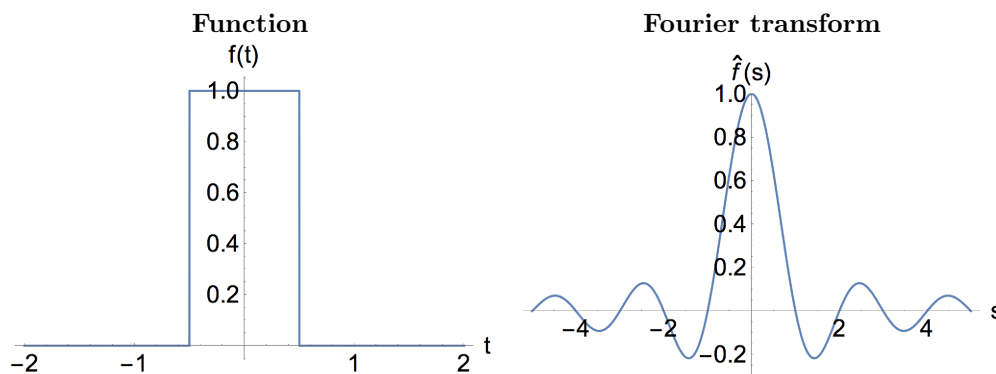
This challenge, and the next few, represent very common functions that can be evaluated using the Fourier transform. Try to understand the mathematics used in their evaluation.

Challenge

Calculate the Fourier Transform for the window function

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } |t| < 1/2 \\ 0 & \text{for } |t| > 1/2 \end{cases} \quad (3.2)$$

In graph-form the function and its transform appear as follows:



To check your answer, calculate $\hat{f}(s = 1.5)$.

Solution

MD5(ddd_X) = b78cd8...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

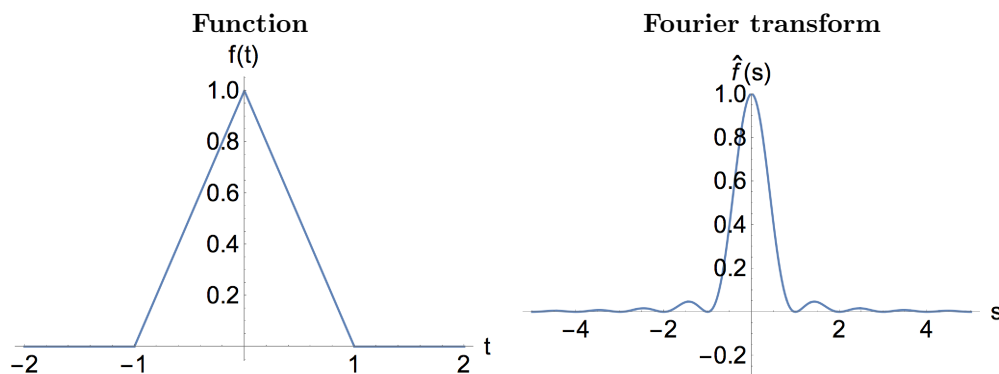
3.5 Fourier transform of a triangle function

Resources

- Book: Chapter 2 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 6 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4lcVR0AtN_Q)

Challenge

Calculate the Fourier Transform for the triangle function shown below. In graph-form the function and its transform appear as follows:



To check your answer, calculate $\hat{f}(s = 1.5)$.

Solution

MD5(ffX) = 55e1c1...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

3.6 Fourier transform of a gaussian

Resources

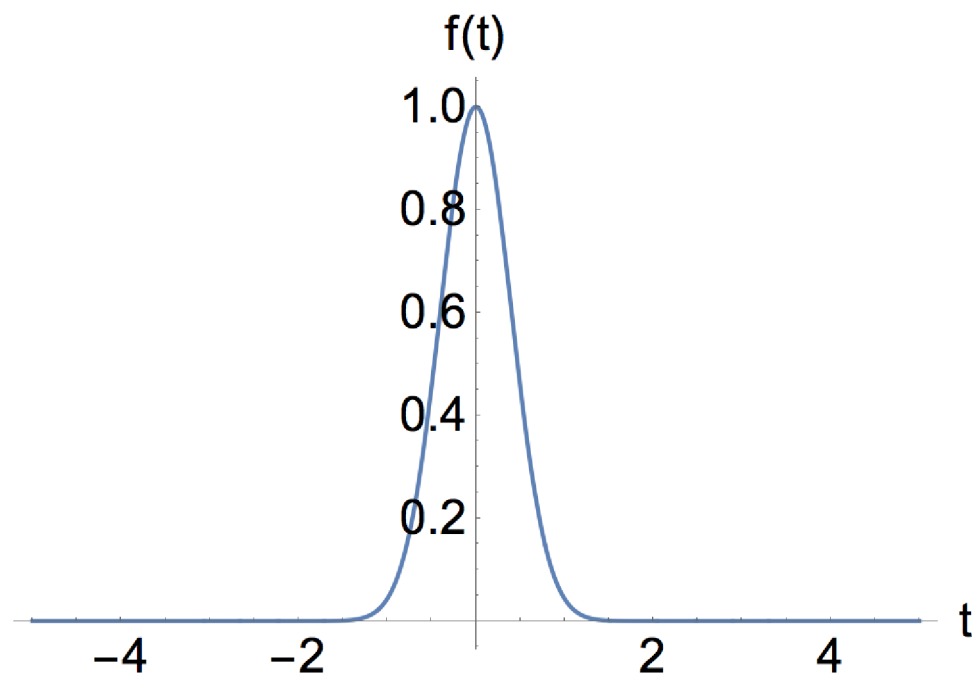
- Book: Chapter 2 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftaee261/book-fall-07.pdf>)
- Video: Lecture 7 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdFETbe1n5Q>)

Challenge

Calculate the Fourier Transform for the gaussian function:

$$f(t) = e^{-\pi t^2} \quad (3.3)$$

The gaussian function looks like



To check your answer, calculate $\hat{f}(s = 1.5)$.

Solution

MD5(ggg_X) = 341b23...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

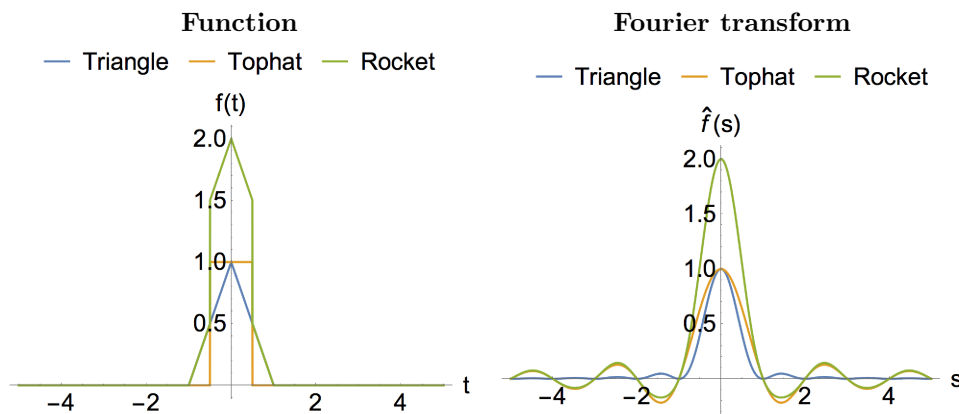
3.7 Fourier transform of a rocket function

Resources

- Book: Chapter 2.2.6 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftae261/book-fall-07.pdf>)

Challenge

Calculate the Fourier Transform for the rocket function shown below. In graph-form the function and its transform appear as follows:



To check your answer, calculate $\hat{f}(s = 1.5)$.

Solution

MD5(hhh_X) = a344fd...

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

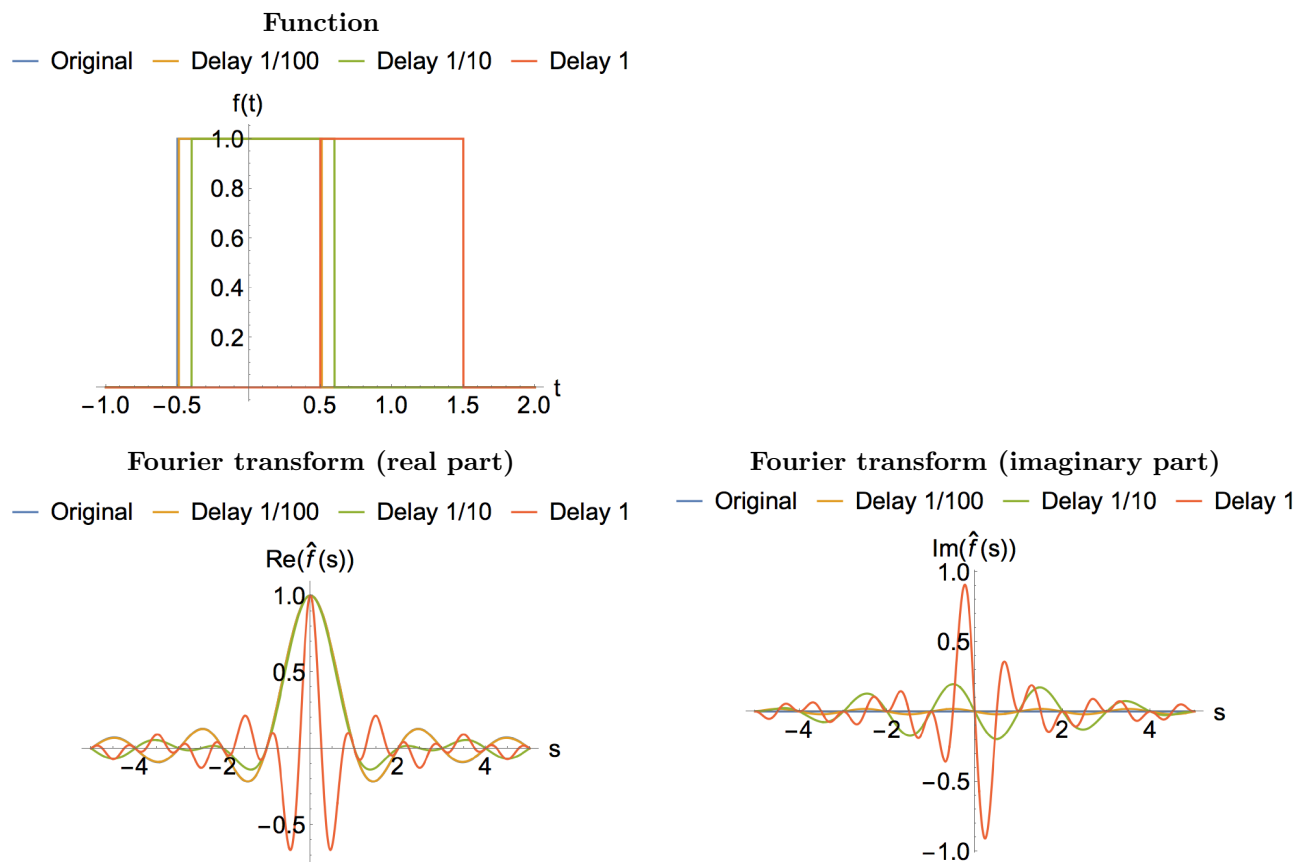
3.8 Fourier transform of a shifted window function

Resources

- Book: Chapter 2.2.7 (<https://see.stanford.edu/materials/lsoftae261/book-fall-07.pdf>)

Challenge

1. By delaying the window function slightly as shown below, we are introducing a phase-shift. Write a few sentences explaining what is meant by a phase-shift and how it relates to the current situation.
2. Calculate the Fourier Transform for the window function delayed by $1/100$ s, $1/10$ s and 1 s.
3. Write a short summary of how the real and imaginary parts of the signal are changing as the delay increases. You considered the original window function in challenge 3.4.



To check your answer, calculate $\hat{f}(s = 2.9)$ for each case. By doing this, you will also gain insight into the new nature of the real and imaginary parts of the function with shifting.

Solution

$1/100$ s delay: $0.0333568 - 0.0061462i$

$1/10$ s delay: $-0.00843515 - 0.0328527i$

1 s delay: $0.0274405 + 0.0199367i$

Study-time (from end of previous challenge to end of this challenge): _____ minutes

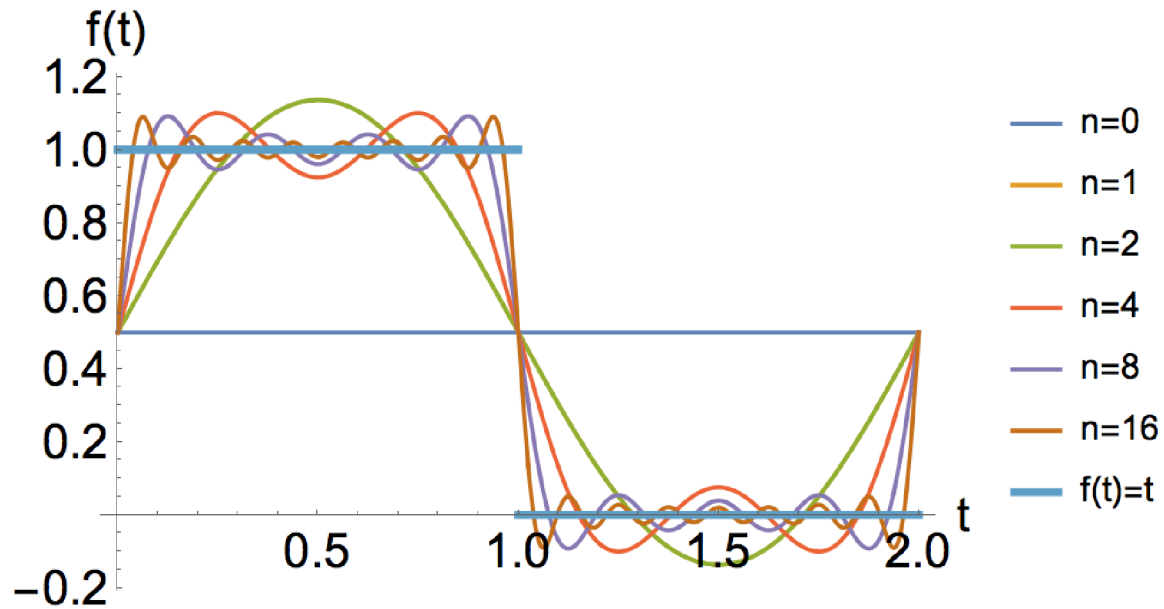
Appendix A

Practise challenges

A.1 Shifting squarewave

Challenge

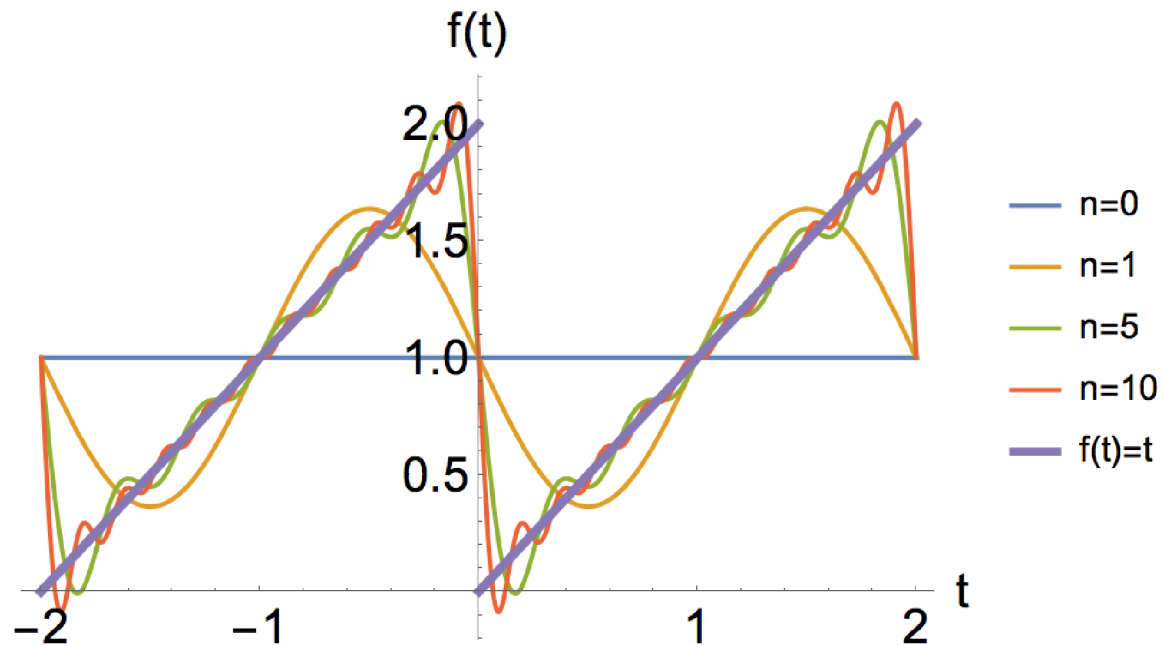
Determine the Fourier series in terms of exponentials and trigonometric terms for the square-wave below and compare it to the square-wave you calculated earlier in challenge 2.14. Notice how the presence of the terms are related to the even/odd nature of the function.



A.2 Sawtooth wave

Challenge

1. Determine the expression for a sawtooth wave of the form shown in the graph below, in terms of a trigonometric Fourier series.
2. Write a sentence explaining how the symmetry of the problem effects the final expression.



To check your answer, evaluate the function at $t = 1.1$ including only the first 3 terms of the Fourier series.

Solution

MD5(apaa_X) = 603043...