

Fourier series

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1 Orthogonality

Let $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$. The computation of the Fourier series is based on the integral identities

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \cos mx \, dx &= \pi \delta_{nm} \\ \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \sin mx \, dx &= \pi \delta_{nm} \\ \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \cos mx \, dx &= 0\end{aligned}$$

2 Series expansion

The Fourier series of a real function $f(x)$ for $x \in [-\pi, \pi]$ is given by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cos kx + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \sin kx$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}a_k &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos kx \, dx \\ b_k &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin kx \, dx\end{aligned}$$

3 Complex coefficients

The Fourier series of a real function $f(x)$ for $x \in [-\pi, \pi]$ is given by

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} c_k e^{ikx}$$

where c_k are complex values for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$c_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

This expansion is based on orthogonality relations

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \phi_n, \phi_m \rangle &= \delta_{nm} \\ \langle \phi_n, \phi_m \rangle &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} \overline{\phi_n(x)} \phi_m(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

for the set of complex functions $\phi_k(z) = e^{ikz}, k \in \mathbb{Z}$

4 Parseval's theorem

The Fourier coefficients of function $f(x)$ will satisfy the relation, which is a generalized Pythagorean theorem for inner-product spaces

$$\frac{1}{2}a_0^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} |f(x)|^2 dx$$

For a complex Fourier series,

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |c_k|^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{x=-\pi}^{\pi} |f(x)|^2 dx$$