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Chapter 1

Fourier series

1.1 Preliminaries

Definition 1.1.1. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a function. We say f has a period T or f is T -periodic with $T > 0$ if and only if $f(x + T) = f(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Lemma 1.1.1. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a T -periodic function. Then, $f(x + T') = f(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ if and only if $T' = kT$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Proposition 1.1.2. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a T -periodic function and $a \in \mathbb{R}$ a number. Then,

$$\int_a^{a+T} f \, dx = \int_0^T f \, dx. \quad (1.1)$$

Lemma 1.1.3. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a T -periodic function continuous in \mathbb{R} . Then, $|f|$ is bounded.

Proposition 1.1.4. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a T -periodic function. Then, there is no a power series that converges uniformly to f in \mathbb{R} .

1.2 Orthogonal and orthonormal systems of functions

Definition 1.2.1. Let $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be two integrable functions. We define the *inner product* of f and g as

$$\langle f, g \rangle_2 := \int_a^b f(x) \overline{g(x)} \, dx, \quad (1.2)$$

where \bar{g} is the conjugate of g .

Definition 1.2.2. Let $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ two integrable functions. We define the *2-norm* of f as

$$\|f\|_2 := \sqrt{\langle f, f \rangle_2} = \left(\int_a^b |f(x)|^2 \, dx \right)^{1/2}. \quad (1.3)$$

Definition 1.2.3. Let $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ two integrable functions. We define the *distance between* f and g as

$$d(f, g) := \|f - g\|. \quad (1.4)$$

Proposition 1.2.1. Let $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ two integrable functions. Then,

1. $\langle f, f \rangle_2 \geq 0$.
2. $\langle f + g, h \rangle_2 = \langle f, h \rangle_2 + \langle g, h \rangle_2$ and $\langle f, g + h \rangle_2 = \langle f, g \rangle_2 + \langle f, h \rangle_2$.
3. $\langle f, g \rangle_2 = \overline{\langle g, f \rangle_2}$.
4. For $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$, $\langle \alpha f, g \rangle_2 = \alpha \langle f, g \rangle_2$ and $\langle f, \alpha g \rangle_2 = \bar{\alpha} \langle f, g \rangle_2$.

Note that for Riemann integrable functions it is not true that $\langle f, f \rangle_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow f = 0$, since a function that is not zero at some point will satisfy $\langle f, f \rangle_2 = 0$. However, if we deal with the space of continuous functions in $[a, b]$ the it is true.

Theorem 1.2.2. Let $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ two Riemann integrable functions. Then,

$$|\langle f, g \rangle_2| \leq \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2. \quad (1.5)$$

Theorem 1.2.3. Let $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ two Riemann integrable functions. Then,

$$\|f + g\|_2 \leq \|f\|_2 + \|g\|_2. \quad (1.6)$$

Definition 1.2.4. Let $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ two Riemann integrable functions with $f \neq g$. Then,

1. we say f and g are *orthogonal* if and only if $\langle f, g \rangle_2 = 0$.

2. We say f and g are orthonormal if and only if $\langle f, g \rangle_2 = 0$ and $\|f\|_2 = \|g\|_2 = 1$.
3. Let $S = \{\phi_0, \phi_1, \dots\}$ be a collection of Riemann integrable functions in $[a, b]$. We say S is an orthonormal system if and only if $\|\phi_i\|_2 = 1 \forall i$ and $\langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle_2 = 0 \forall i \neq j$.

Definition 1.2.5. Let $\{\phi_0, \dots, \phi_n\}$ be a collection of Riemann integrable functions in $[a, b]$. We say the collection is linearly dependent in $[a, b]$ if and only if there exist c_0, \dots, c_n with not all being zero such that

$$c_0\phi_0(x) + \dots + c_n\phi_n(x) = 0, \forall x \in [a, b]. \quad (1.7)$$

Theorem 1.2.4. Let $S = \{\phi_0, \phi_1, \dots\}$ be an orthonormal system in $[a, b]$ such that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n\phi_n(x)$ converges uniformly in $[a, b]$. Let f be the function that defines the series in $[a, b]$. Then f is Riemann integrable in $[a, b]$ and

$$c_n = \langle f, \phi_n \rangle_2 = \int_a^b f(x) \overline{\phi_n(x)} dx, n \geq 0. \quad (1.8)$$

1.3 Fourier coefficients. Fourier series

1.3.1 Exponential form

Definition 1.3.1. Let f be a Riemann integrable function in $[0, 1]$. We define the n -th Fourier coefficient with $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ as

$$\hat{f}(n) = \langle f, e_n \rangle_2 = \int_0^1 f(x) e^{-2\pi i n x} dx. \quad (1.9)$$

The series

$$Sf(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n) e^{2\pi i n x} \quad (1.10)$$

constructed by these coefficients is called the *Fourier series* of f .

Proposition 1.3.1. In relation to Fourier coefficients, the following statements are true.

1. $\widehat{\lambda f + \mu g}(n) = \lambda \hat{f}(n) + \mu \hat{g}(n)$.
2. If $\tau \in (0, 1)$ and $f_\tau(x) := f(x - \tau)$, then $\hat{f}_\tau(n) = e^{-2\pi i n \tau} \hat{f}(n)$.
3. If f is even, then $\hat{f}(n) = \hat{f}(-n) \forall n$ and if f is odd, $\hat{f}(n) = -\hat{f}(-n) \forall n$.
4. If f' exists and it is continuous, then $\hat{f}'(n) = 2\pi i n \hat{f}(n)$.