

Formula

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

$$\text{where } a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx$$

Examples :-

- ① Find a Fourier series to represent  $f(x) = x^2$  in  $(0, 2\pi)$  and hence, deduce that  $\frac{\pi^2}{12} = \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$

Solution :- Let  $x^2 = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$  in  $(0, 2\pi)$  (1)

$$\text{Then } a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{8\pi^3}{3} \right]$$

$$\therefore \boxed{a_0 = \frac{8\pi^2}{3}}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 \cos nx dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ x^2 \left( \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right) - (2x) \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n^2} \right) + (2) \left( \frac{-\sin nx}{n^3} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ 2x \frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ 4\pi \frac{\cos 2n\pi}{n^2} - 0 \right]$$

$$\boxed{a_n = \frac{4}{n^2}}$$

$2\pi$

$2\pi$

Now  $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 \sin nx \, dx$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ x^2 \left( -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) - (2x) \left( -\frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{\cos nx}{n^3} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \left( \frac{-4\pi^2 \cos 2n\pi}{n} - 0 \right) + 2 \left( \frac{\cos 2n\pi}{n^3} - \frac{\cos 0}{n^3} \right) \right]$$

Now  $\cos 2n\pi = 1$ ,  $\cos 0 = 1$

$$\therefore \boxed{b_n = -\frac{4\pi}{n}}$$

Substituting these values in (1)

$$x^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \cos nx - 4\pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin nx$$

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

Now put  $x = \pi$

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

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

$$\therefore \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$$

Hence proved.

Example-2 :- Obtain the Fourier expansion of  $f(x) = \left( \frac{\pi-x}{2} \right)^2$

in the interval  $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$  and  $f(x+2\pi) = f(x)$

Also Deduce that

$$(i) \frac{\pi^2}{6} = \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots \quad (ii) \frac{\pi^2}{12} = \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$$

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

$$(ii) \frac{\pi^2}{12} = \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$$

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

$$(iv) \frac{\pi^4}{90} = \frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{2^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{4^4} + \dots$$

Solution :- Let  $f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$  — (1)

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(\pi-x)^2}{4} dx = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{(\pi-x)^3}{-3} \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{-\pi^3}{-3} - \frac{\pi^3}{-3} \right] = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{2\pi^3}{3} \right] = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(\pi-x)^2}{4} \cos nx dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ (\pi-x)^2 \left( \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right) - (-2(\pi-x)) \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n^2} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{-\sin nx}{n^3} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ -2(\pi-x) \left( \frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ 2\pi \frac{\cos 2n\pi}{n^2} - (-2\pi) \frac{\cos 0}{n^2} \right] = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{2\pi + 2\pi}{n^2} \right]$$

$$\therefore \boxed{a_n = \frac{1}{n^2}}$$

Now,  $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(\pi-x)^2}{4} \sin nx dx$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ (\pi-x)^2 \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) - (-2(\pi-x)) \left( \frac{-\sin nx}{n^2} \right) + 2 \left( \frac{\cos nx}{n^3} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \left( -\pi^2 \frac{\cos 2n\pi}{n} + \frac{2\cos 2n\pi}{n^3} \right) - \left( -\pi^2 \frac{\cos 0}{n} + \frac{2\cos 0}{n^3} \right) \right]$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ -\frac{\pi^2}{n} + \frac{2}{n^3} + \frac{\pi^2}{n} - \frac{2}{n^3} \right]$$

$$\therefore \boxed{bn = 0}$$

Substituting these values in (1)

$$\left(\frac{\pi-x}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{12} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \cos nx$$

$$\left(\frac{\pi-x}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{12} + \frac{1}{1^2} \cos x + \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \dots \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

(i) Now we put  $x=0$  in (2)

$$\frac{\pi^2}{4} = \frac{\pi^2}{12} + \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots$$

$$\therefore \frac{\pi^2}{6} = \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

(ii) Again, put  $x=\pi$  in (2)

$$0 = \frac{\pi^2}{12} + \frac{1}{1^2} \cos \pi + \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2\pi + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3\pi + \dots$$

$$\therefore \frac{\pi^2}{12} = \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

(iii) To get the result (iii), add (3) & (4)

$$\frac{\pi^2}{6} + \frac{\pi^2}{12} = 2 \left( \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right)$$

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

(iv) To derive the last result, we use Parseval's Identity

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [f(x)]^2 dx = \frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum (a_n^2 + b_n^2) \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$$\text{Now } \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [f(x)]^2 dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(\pi-x)^4}{16} dx = \frac{1}{16\pi} \left[ \frac{(\pi-x)^5}{-5} \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{80\pi} \left[ -\pi^5 - \pi^5 \right] = \frac{\pi^4}{40}$$

Substituting in (5)

$$\frac{\pi^4}{40} = \frac{\pi^4}{72} + \sum \frac{1}{n^4}$$

$$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^4} = \frac{\pi^4}{40} - \frac{\pi^4}{72} = \frac{9\pi^4 - 5\pi^4}{360} = \frac{4\pi^4}{360} = \frac{\pi^4}{90}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{2^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{4^4} + \dots = \frac{\pi^4}{90}$$

Hence proved.

Example-3 Find the Fourier series for  $f(x) = e^x$  in  $(0, 2\pi)$

Solution:- Let  $f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$  — (1)

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^x dx = \frac{1}{\pi} [e^x]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{1}{\pi} [e^{2\pi} - 1]$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^x \cos nx dx$$

$$\int e^{ax} \cos bx dx = \frac{e^{ax}}{a^2 + b^2} [a \cos bx + b \sin bx]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{e^x}{1+n^2} [\cos nx + n \sin nx] \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{e^{2\pi}}{1+n^2} (\cos 2n\pi) - \frac{e^0}{1+n^2} (\cos 0) \right]$$

$$\boxed{a_n = \frac{1}{\pi(1+n^2)} (e^{2\pi} - 1)}$$

(as  $\cos 2n\pi = \cos 0 = 1$ )

$$\text{Now } b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^x \sin nx dx$$

$$\int e^{ax} \sin bx dx = \frac{e^{ax}}{a^2 + b^2} [a \sin bx - b \cos bx]$$

$$\int e^{ax} \sin bx \, dx = \frac{e^{ax}}{a^2 + b^2} [a \sin bx - b \cos bx]$$

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

$$\therefore b_n = \frac{n(1-e^{2\pi})}{\pi(1+n^2)}$$

$\therefore$  Fourier series for  $f(x) = e^x$  in  $(0, 2\pi)$

$$f(x) = e^x = \frac{(e^{2\pi} - 1)}{2\pi} + \sum \frac{(e^{2\pi} - 1)}{\pi(1+n^2)} \cos nx + \sum \frac{n(1-e^{2\pi})}{\pi(1+n^2)} \sin nx$$

Example 4: Find Fourier series for  $f(x) = \begin{cases} -\pi & 0 < x < \pi \\ x - \pi & \pi < x < 2\pi \end{cases}$

state the value of the series at  $x = \pi$  and hence,

show that  $\frac{\pi^2}{8} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^2}$

Solution:- Let  $f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$

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

$$\therefore \boxed{a_0 = -\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{a_0 = -\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \int_0^{\pi} -\pi \cos nx \, dx + \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (x-\pi) \cos nx \, dx \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ -\pi \left( \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right) \Big|_0^{\pi} + \left[ (x-\pi) \left( \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right) - (1) \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n^2} \right) \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} \right\}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} = \frac{\cos 2n\pi - \cos n\pi}{\pi n^2} = \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{\pi n^2}$$

$$a_n = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi n^2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_0^{\pi} -\pi \sin nx \, dx + \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} (x-\pi) \sin nx \, dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ -\pi \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) \Big|_0^{\pi} + \left[ (x-\pi) \left( \frac{-\cos nx}{n} \right) - (1) \left( \frac{-\sin nx}{n^2} \right) \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\pi}{n} (\cos n\pi - \cos 0) + \left[ -\frac{\pi}{n} \cos 2n\pi - 0 \right] \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} [\cos n\pi - \cos 0 - \cos 2n\pi]$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{n} [(-1)^n - 2]$$

$$b_n = \begin{cases} -\frac{3}{n} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ -\frac{1}{n} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

$\therefore$  Fourier series for  $f(x)$  in  $(0, 2\pi)$  is

$$f(x) = -\frac{\pi}{4} + \sum \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{\pi n^2} \cos nx + \sum \frac{(-1)^n - 2}{n} \sin nx$$

$$= -\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \cos x + \frac{2}{\pi 3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{2}{\pi 5^2} \cos 5x + \dots$$

$$+ \left( -\frac{3}{1} \sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x - \frac{3}{3} \sin 3x - \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x - \dots \right) \quad (2)$$

Now, the function is discontinuous at  $x = \pi$

$\therefore$  at  $x = \pi$ , the Fourier series will take a value

$$f(\pi) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^-} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^+} f(x) \right] = \frac{1}{2} [-\pi + 0] = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

Now put  $x = \pi$  in (2)

$$f(\pi) = -\frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \cos(\pi) + \frac{2}{\pi 3^2} (\cos 3\pi) + \frac{2}{\pi 5^2} \cos 5\pi + \dots$$

$$+ \left( -\frac{3}{1} \sin \pi - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\pi - \frac{3}{3} \sin 3\pi - \dots \right)$$

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

$$-\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4} = -\frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right] = -\frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\pi^2}{8} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^2}$$

Hence proved.