SOLUTIONS to Final Exam

Fourier Analysis, 1MA211

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duration of the exam: 5 hours

There are 8 problems in this exam, and each one is worth 5 points. The grade limits are: 18 points for grade 3, 25 points for grade 4 and 32 points for grade 5. You need to motivate every step in your solution to get the full score on a question. You can use the attached table of formulas. Good luck!

1. Use a technique that we studied in this course to find a function y(x), with $x \ge 0$, that solves the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} y''(x) - 2y'(x) - 3y(x) = 4e^{-x} \\ y(0) = -1, \quad y'(0) = 2 \end{cases}.$$

Solution: Applying the Laplace transform to both sides of the equation, we get

$$(s^{2}Y(s) + s - 2) - 2(sY(s) + 1) - 3Y(s) = \frac{4}{s+1}$$

so

$$(s^2 - 2s - 3)Y(s) = \frac{4}{s+1} - s + 4.$$

The fact that $(s^2 - 2s - 3) = (s + 1)(s - 3)$ implies that

$$Y(s) = \frac{-s^2 + 3s + 8}{(s+1)^2(s-3)}.$$

We can find a partial fraction decomposition for the right side:

$$\frac{-s^2 + 3s + 8}{(s+1)^2(s-3)} = \frac{A}{(s+1)} + \frac{B}{(s+1)^2} + \frac{C}{s-3}.$$
 (1)

To find C, multiply both sides by s-3 and take the limit as $s \to 3$. We get

$$C = \lim_{s \to 3} \frac{-s^2 + 3s + 8}{(s+1)^2} = \frac{-9 + 9 + 8}{16} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

To find B, multiply both sides by $(s+1)^2$ and take the limit as $s \to -1$. We get

$$B = \lim_{s \to -1} \frac{-s^2 + 3s + 8}{s - 3} = \frac{-1 - 3 + 8}{-4} = -1.$$

Now that we know B and C, we can find A by evaluating both sides of equation (1) above at a point that is not a zero of the denominator. For instance, at s = 0 we get

$$-\frac{8}{3} = A - 1 - \frac{1}{6} \Longrightarrow A = -\frac{3}{2}.$$

Therefore,

$$Y(s) = -\frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{(s+1)^2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{s-3}.$$

Taking the inverse Laplace transform, we conclude that

$$y(x) = -\frac{3}{2}e^{-x} - xe^{-x} + \frac{1}{2}e^{3x}.$$

2. Find a function u(x,t), where $0 \le x \le \pi$ and $t \ge 0$, that solves the boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} = u_{xx} & 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0 \\ u_x(0, t) = 2 \text{ and } u_x(\pi, t) = 2 & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = 3x \text{ and } u_t(x, 0) = 3\cos(2x) & 0 < x < \pi \end{cases}$$

Solution: We begin by homogenizing the problem by assuming u(x,t) = v(x,t) + 2x, where v(x,t) satisfies

$$\begin{cases} v_{tt} = v_{xx} & 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0 \\ v_x(0, t) = v_x(\pi, t) = 0 & t > 0 \\ v(x, 0) = x \text{ and } v_t(x, 0) = 3\cos(2x) & 0 < x < \pi. \end{cases}$$

We now make the ansatz v(x,t) = X(x)T(t) to separate the variables. By the equation and conditions we can conclude that the solution is on the form

$$v(x,t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt)) \cos(nx).$$

By the first initial condition we have

$$v(x,0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos(nx) = x,$$

so the coefficients a_n are the coefficients of the Fourier series of the even extension of f(x) = x on $0 < x < \pi$. We compute these to be $a_0 = \pi$ and

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

$$= \frac{2((-1)^n - 1)}{\pi n^2}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{-4}{\pi (2m+1)^2}, & \text{if } n = 2m+1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By the second initial condition, we have

$$v_t(x,0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nb_n \cos(nx) = 3\cos(2x),$$

whence $b_2 = \frac{3}{2}$ and $b_n = 0$ if $n \neq 2$. Lastly, putting everything together we find that

$$u(x,t) = v(x,t) + 2x$$

$$\pi - 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{-4}{\pi} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)^2} \cos((2m+1)t) \cos((2m+1)x) + \frac{3}{2} \sin(2t) \cos(2x) + 2x.$$

3. Let V be the space of continuous functions $f:[0,1]\to\mathbb{C}$, with the inner product given by

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^1 f(x) \, \overline{g(x)} \, e^x \, \mathrm{d}x.$$

Find two orthonormal elements of V.

Solution: There are many possible solutions to this question. For example, if one can apply the Gram-Schmidt method starting with the linearly independent functions $v_1 = 1$ and $v_2 = e^{-x}$:

$$||v_1||^2 = \langle v_1, v_1 \rangle = \int_0^1 e^x \, dx = e^x \Big|_0^1 = e - 1$$

so the first orthonormal vector is

$$e_1 = \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{e-1}}.$$

Now,

$$\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle = \int_0^1 e^{-x} e^x \, dx = \int_0^1 1 \, dx = 1$$

so

$$u_2 = v_2 - \frac{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}{\langle v_1, v_1 \rangle} v_1 = e^{-x} - \frac{1}{e - 1}.$$

$$||u_2||^2 = \langle u_2, u_2 \rangle = \int_0^1 (e^{-x} - \frac{1}{e - 1})^2 e^x \, dx = \int_0^1 (e^{-2x} - \frac{2}{e - 1}e^{-x} + \frac{1}{(e - 1)^2})e^x \, dx =$$

$$= \int_0^1 e^{-x} - \frac{2}{e - 1} + \frac{1}{(e - 1)^2} e^x \, dx = \left[-e^{-x} - \frac{2x}{e - 1} + \frac{e^x}{(e - 1)^2} \right]_0^1 =$$

$$= -e^{-1} + 1 - \frac{2}{e - 1} + \frac{e - 1}{(e - 1)^2} = 1 - \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{1 - e}.$$

Therefore, the second orthonormal vector is

$$e_2 = \frac{e^{-x} - \frac{1}{e-1}}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{1-e}}}.$$

4. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{C}$ be a function of period 2π , such that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in [-\pi, -\pi/2) \cup (\pi/2, \pi) \\ 1 & \text{if } x \in [-\pi/2, \pi/2] \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find the Fourier series of f.
- (b) Does this Fourier series converge pointwise? If yes, write the limit. Justify your answer.
- (c) Does this Fourier series converge uniformly? If yes, write the limit. Justify your answer.
- (d) Use the result of part (a) to compute

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^2}.$$

Solution:

(a) Since f is even, we have $b_n = 0$ for all n and only need to compute a_n for $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ We compute

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

and

$$a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx$$
$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos(nx) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)}{n}, \quad n \neq 0.$$

We obtain

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

(b) Yes. Since this function has lateral limits and lateral derivatives at every point, Dirichlet's theorem can be applied at every point x_0 . If f is continuous at x_0 then the Fourier series converges to $f(x_0)$. If f has a jump discontinuity at x_0 , then the Fourier series converges to $\frac{f(x_+)+f(x_-)}{2}$ (where x_{\pm} are the lateral limits at x_0). Therefore, the pointwise limit is

$$\tilde{f}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x \in \left[-\pi, -\frac{\pi}{2} \right) \cup \left(\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi \right] \\ \frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } x \in \left\{ -\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2} \right\} \\ 1, & \text{if } x \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2} \right). \end{cases}$$

(c) No. Since the partial sums are continuous functions and the limit \tilde{f} is not continuous, the convergence can not be uniform.

(d) By Parseval's formula

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f(x)|^2 dx = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{\pi^2} \frac{1}{(2m-1)^2}$$

$$\iff \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi^2} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m-1)^2}$$

$$\iff \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m-1)^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{8}.$$

5. Find a function u(x,y) that solves the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + 6 u y^2 & x \in \mathbb{R}, y > 0 \\ u(x,0) = f(x) & x \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}.$$

Hint: Recall that the ODE f'(t) + p(t) f(t) = 0, where p(t) is a known function, can be solved either by using the integrating factor $I(t) = e^{\int p(t) dt}$ or by separating variables.

Solution: Applying the Fourier transform with respect to the variable x, the problem becomes:

$$\begin{cases} i\omega \hat{u} = \frac{\partial \hat{u}}{\partial y} + 6\,\hat{u}\,y^2 & \omega \in \mathbb{R}, y > 0\\ \hat{u}(\omega, 0) = \hat{f}(\omega) & \omega \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$
 (2)

The first line is an ODE in the variable y, which we can rewrite as

$$\frac{\partial \hat{u}}{\partial y} + (6y^2 - i\omega)\hat{u} = 0.$$

An integrating factor for this ODE is

$$I = e^{\int (6y^2 - i\omega) \, dy} = e^{2y^3 - i\omega y}$$

Multiplying the ODE by the integrating factor, we get that

$$\left(\frac{\partial \hat{u}}{\partial y} + (6y^2 - i\omega)\hat{u}\right)I = \frac{\partial (\hat{u}I)}{\partial y} = 0 \Longrightarrow \hat{u}I = C(\omega)$$

where $C(\omega)$ depends only on ω . Therefore,

$$\hat{u}(\omega, y) = \frac{C(\omega)}{I} = C(\omega)e^{-2y^3 + i\omega y}.$$

Evaluating at y = 0, and using the second equation in (2), we get

$$\hat{u}(\omega, 0) = C(\omega) = \hat{f}(\omega).$$

Therefore,

$$\hat{u}(\omega, y) = \hat{f}(\omega)e^{-2y^3 + i\omega y}$$

Taking the inverse Fourier transform in the variable ω , and using the table of formulas, we get

$$u(x,y) = e^{-2y^3} f(x+y).$$

6. Find a solution of the integral equation

$$f(x) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-|y|} f(x - y) dy = 3e^{-|x|}.$$

Solution: Note that we may write the equation as

$$f(x) + (e^{-|\cdot|} * f)(x) = 3e^{-|x|}.$$

Taking the Fourier transform on both sides yields

$$\hat{f}(\omega) + \frac{2}{1+\omega^2}\hat{f}(\omega) = 3\frac{2}{1+\omega^2},$$

and solving for $\hat{f}(\omega)$, we find

$$\hat{f}(\omega) = \frac{6}{3 + \omega^2}.$$

It remains to find the inverse transform of $\hat{f}(\omega)$. By rewriting

$$\frac{6}{3+\omega^2} = \sqrt{3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{2}{1+\left(\frac{\omega}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^2}$$

and using the table of formulas (in particular $\widehat{f(ax)} = \frac{1}{|a|} \widehat{f}\left(\frac{\omega}{|a|}\right)$), we see that

$$f(x) = \sqrt{3}e^{-|\sqrt{3}x|}.$$

7. (a) Compute the Fourier transform of the tempered distribution $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$ given by the function

$$f(x) = e^{iax}$$

where $a \in \mathbb{R}$ is a constant.

Solution: Using the properties of the Fourier transform, we get

$$\mathcal{F}[e^{iax}] = \mathcal{F}[e^{iax}.1] = \mathcal{F}[1](\omega - a) = 2\pi\delta_a.$$

(b) Compute the Fourier transform of the tempered distribution $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$ given by the function

$$f(x) = \cos(x)$$
.

Solution: By Euler's formula, we have that

$$\cos(x) = \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2}.$$

Using the linearity of the Fourier transform and the previous exercise, we conclude that

$$\mathcal{F}[\cos(x)] = \mathcal{F}[\frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2}] = \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{F}[e^{ix}] - \mathcal{F}[e^{-ix}]) = \pi(\delta_1 + \delta_{-1}).$$

(c) Find a tempered distribution $g \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$ (that is not the zero distribution) which solves the equation

$$(x^2 - 1) g = 0.$$

Hint: Take the inverse Fourier transform.

Solution: Taking the inverse Fourier transform of the equation

$$x^2g(x) = g(x)$$

one gets

$$-\frac{d^2\check{g}(y)}{dy^2} = \check{g}(y).$$

This well-known ODE has solutions given by e^{iy} or $\cos(y)$, for example. Using the previous parts, we conclude that their Fourier transforms, which are respectively $2\pi\delta_1$ and $\pi(\delta_1 + \delta_{-1})$, solve the equation $(x^2 - 1)g = 0$.

More generally, observe that for all constants $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{C}$, the distribution $c_1\delta_1 + c_2\delta_{-1}$ solves the equation. Indeed, for every test function $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$

$$((x^{2}-1)(c_{1}\delta_{1}+c_{2}\delta_{-1}))(\varphi) = (c_{1}\delta_{1}+c_{2}\delta_{-1})((x^{2}-1)\varphi) =$$

$$= c_{1}\delta_{1}((x^{2}-1)\varphi) + c_{2}\delta_{-1}((x^{2}-1)\varphi) =$$

$$= c_{1}(1^{2}-1)\varphi(1) + c_{2}((-1)^{2}-1)\varphi(-1) = 0.$$

- 8. Let $f_n:[a,b]\to\mathbb{C}$, with $n\geq 1$, be a sequence of integrable functions on the finite interval [a,b], and assume that the sequence converges uniformly to the integrable function $f:[a,b]\to\mathbb{C}$.
 - (a) Show the existence of a constant M > 0 and of an integer n_0 such that, for every $n > n_0$, one has

$$|f_n(x)| \leq M$$
 for all $x \in [a, b]$

(one says that the sequence f_n is uniformly bounded).

(b) Show that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_a^b |f_n(x) - f(x)|^2 dx = 0$$

(one says that f_n converges to f in mean-square, or in $L^2([a,b])$).

Solution:

(a) Since f_n and f are assumed to be (Riemann) integrable, they are in particular by definition bounded on [a,b], i.e. for all $a \le x \le b$, $|f_n(x)| \le c_n$ and $|f(x)| \le c$ for some constants c_n and c. Since $f_n \to f$ uniformly, given $\epsilon > 0$ there exists an integer N such that for any n > N, we have

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon,$$

for all $a \le x \le b$. Hence, by using the triangle inequality and that |f(x)| < c, we get

$$|f_n(x)| \le \epsilon + |f(x)| < \epsilon + c.$$

Now simply choose $M = \epsilon + c$ and $n_0 = N$.

(b) We have

$$\int_{a}^{b} |f_{n}(x) - f(x)|^{2} dx \le \sup_{a \le x \le b} |f_{n}(x) - f(x)| \int_{a}^{b} |f_{n}(x) - f(x)| dx$$

$$\le \sup_{a \le x \le b} |f_{n}(x) - f(x)| \int_{a}^{b} |f_{n}(x) - f(x)| dx$$

$$\le \sup_{a \le x \le b} |f_{n}(x) - f(x)| (b - a)(M + c),$$

where we used the result of (a) and the bound on |f(x)| in the last inequality. Since $f_n \to f$ uniformly, we have $\sup_{a \le x \le b} |f_n(x) - f(x)| \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$. We conclude that

$$\int_{a}^{b} |f_n(x) - f(x)|^2 dx \to 0,$$

as $n \to \infty$.

Alternatively, we can use that since f_n is integrable and converges uniformly to f on the compact set [a, b], we have that $|f_n(x) - f(x)|^2$ is integrable and converges uniformly to 0 on [a, b] (prove it). Hence,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_a^b |f_n(x) - f(x)|^2 dx = \int_a^b \lim_{n \to \infty} |f_n(x) - f(x)|^2 dx = 0.$$

Formulas for Fourier Analysis course

Triangle inequalities

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and f, g be functions. Then

- $||x| |y|| \le |x \pm y| \le |x| + |y|$
- $\left| \int_{\Omega} f(x) \, dx \right| \leq \int_{\Omega} |f(x)| \, dx$, for a subset $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$.

Some useful identities

- $e^{a+ib} = e^a(\cos(b) + i\sin(b))$

Gram-Schmidt orthogonalisation

Let V be an inner product space and $\{v_1, \ldots, v_k\} \subset V$ be a linearly independent set of vectors. Then the Gram–Schmidt orthogonalisation is given by

$$u_{1} = v_{1}, e_{1} = \frac{u_{1}}{\|u_{1}\|}$$

$$u_{2} = v_{2} - \frac{\langle u_{1}, v_{2} \rangle}{\langle u_{1}, u_{1} \rangle} u_{1}, e_{2} = \frac{u_{2}}{\|u_{2}\|}$$

$$u_{3} = v_{3} - \frac{\langle u_{1}, v_{3} \rangle}{\langle u_{1}, u_{1} \rangle} u_{1} - \frac{\langle u_{2}, v_{3} \rangle}{\langle u_{2}, u_{2} \rangle} u_{2}, e_{3} = \frac{u_{3}}{\|u_{3}\|}$$

$$\vdots \vdots \vdots$$

$$u_{k} = v_{k} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\langle u_{j}, v_{k} \rangle}{\langle u_{j}, u_{j} \rangle} u_{j}, e_{k} = \frac{u_{k}}{\|u_{k}\|}.$$

Laplace transform

Fourier Series

Functions of period 2π

$$f(t) \sim \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{int} = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt),$$

where

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t)e^{-int} dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos nt dt, \qquad b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin nt dt$$

$$a_n = c_n + c_{-n}, \qquad b_n = i(c_n - c_{-n})$$

Parseval's formula:

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f(t)|^2 dt = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |c_n|^2 = \frac{|a_0|^2}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (|a_n|^2 + |b_n|^2).$$

Functions of period T

Let $\Omega = 2\pi/T$

$$f(t) \sim \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{in\Omega t} = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\Omega t + b_n \sin n\Omega t),$$

where

$$c_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t)e^{-in\Omega t} dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) \cos n\Omega t dt, \qquad b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) \sin n\Omega t dt.$$

Parseval's formula:

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} |f(t)|^2 dt = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |c_n|^2 = \frac{|a_0|^2}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (|a_n|^2 + |b_n|^2).$$

Some trigonometric identities

$$2\sin a \sin b = \cos(a - b) - \cos(a + b)$$

$$2\sin a \cos b = \sin(a - b) + \sin(a + b)$$

$$2\cos a \cos b = \cos(a - b) + \cos(a + b)$$

$$2\sin^2 t = 1 - \cos 2t, \qquad 2\cos^2 t = 1 + \cos 2t$$

Fourier transform

$$\begin{array}{c|c} f(t) & \hat{f}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-i\omega t}\,dt \\ \hline \textbf{General formulas} & \\ & \alpha f(t) + \beta g(t) & \\ & e^{i\alpha t}f(t) & \hat{f}(\omega - \alpha) \\ & f(t-t_0) & e^{-it_0\omega}\hat{f}(\omega) \\ & f(-t) & \hat{f}(-\omega) \\ & f(at) \quad (a \neq 0) & \frac{1}{|a|}\hat{f}(\frac{\omega}{a}) \\ & tf(t) & i\frac{d\hat{f}}{d\omega} \\ & f'(t) & i\omega\hat{f}(\omega) \\ & \hat{f}(t) & 2\pi f(-\omega) \\ & f(\omega)\hat{g}(\omega) \\ \hline \textbf{Particular cases} & \\ & \chi_{[-a,a]} & \frac{2}{1+\omega^2} \\ & \frac{1}{1+t^2} & \pi e^{-|\omega|} \\ & e^{-t^2/2} & \sqrt{2\pi}e^{-\omega^2/2} \\ & \delta & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Plancherel's formulas:

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$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(t)|^2 dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(\omega)|^2 d\omega$$
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \, \overline{g(t)} \, dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\omega) \, \overline{\hat{g}(\omega)} \, d\omega$$

 $2\pi\delta$