

Fourier Integral and Transform

Fourier Integral Theorem

Consider a function $f(x)$ which satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in any interval $(-c,c)$, then Fourier Integral Theorem states that

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cos u(t-x) du dt$$

Fourier Sine and Cosine Integral

We know that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cos u(t-x) du dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) (\cos ut \cos ux + \sin ut \sin ux) du dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cos ut \cos ux du dt + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \sin ut \sin ux du dt \end{aligned}$$

Formula for odd even function

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For odd function} \quad & \int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = 0 \\ \text{For even function} \quad & \int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = 2 \int_0^a f(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

If $f(x)$ is odd,

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) (\sin ut \sin ux) du dt = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \sin ux \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) \sin ut du dt$$

If $f(x)$ is even,

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) (\cos ut \cos ux) du dt = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos ux \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) \cos ut du dt$$

List of Formulae for Fourier Integrals

1. Fourier Integral for $f(x)$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cos u(t-x) du dt$$

2. Fourier Sine Integral for $f(x)$ OR if $f(x)$ is odd function of (x)

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \sin ux \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) \sin ut du dt$$

3. Fourier Cosine Integral for $f(x)$ OR if $f(x)$ is even function of (x)

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos ux \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) \cos ut du dt$$

Ex1-Express the function $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \end{cases}$ as a Fourier Integral and hence evaluate $\int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin \lambda \cos \lambda x}{\lambda} \right] d\lambda$

Solution We know that Fourier Integral for $f(x)$ is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cos u(t-x) du dt \quad ; f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & |t| < 1 \\ 0, & |t| > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=-1}^1 \cos u(t-x) du dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin u(t-x)}{u} \right]_{-1}^1 du$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin u(1-x) - \sin u(-1-x)}{u} \right] du = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin u(1-x) + \sin u(1+x)}{u} \right] du$$

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin u \cos ux}{u} \right] du = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin \lambda \cos \lambda x}{\lambda} \right] d\lambda \quad \sin C + \sin D = 2 \sin \frac{C+D}{2} \cos \frac{C-D}{2}$$

$$\int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin \lambda \cos \lambda x}{\lambda} \right] d\lambda = \frac{\pi}{2} f(x) = f(x) = \begin{cases} \pi/2, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \end{cases}$$

For $|x|=1$ (point of discontinuity), $f(x) = \frac{\pi/2+0}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4}$. hence $f(x) = \begin{cases} \pi/2, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \\ \pi/4, & |x| = 1 \end{cases}$

OR

In the given function, replace x by $-x$, we get $f(-x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \end{cases} = f(x)$

So the function is even function and we can apply . Fourier Cosine Integral formula instead of Fourier Integral formula.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos ux \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) \cos ut \, dt = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos ux \int_{t=0}^1 \cos ut \, dt \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos ux \left[\frac{\sin u(t)}{u} \right]_0^1 du = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos ux \frac{\sin u}{u} du = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin \lambda \cos \lambda x}{\lambda} \right] d\lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\sin \lambda \cos \lambda x}{\lambda} \right] d\lambda = \frac{\pi}{2} f(x) = \begin{cases} \pi/2, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \end{cases}$$

For $|x|=1$ (point of discontinuity), $f(x) = \frac{\pi/2+0}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4}$. hence $f(x) = \begin{cases} \pi/2, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \\ \pi/4, & |x| = 1 \end{cases}$

Ex 2- Using Fourier Cosine Integral representation of an appropriate function , show that $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\cos wx}{k^2+w^2} dw = \frac{\pi e^{-kx}}{2k}$

Solution We know that . Fourier Cosine Integral for $f(x)$

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos ux \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) \cos ut dt du$$

Let $f(x) = e^{-kx}$.

Put value of $f(t)$ and replace u by w .

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-kx} &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos wx \int_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-kt} \cos wt dw dt \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos wx \left[\frac{e^{-kt}}{k^2+w^2} \{-k \cos wt + w \sin wt\} \right]_0^{\infty} dw \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \cos wx \left[0 + \frac{k}{k^2+w^2} \right] dw = \frac{2k}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \frac{\cos wx}{k^2+w^2} dw \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\cos wx}{k^2+w^2} dw = \frac{\pi e^{-kx}}{2k}$$

Ex 3-Find Fourier Sine Integral for $f(x) = e^{-\beta x}$. Hence show that

$$\frac{\pi e^{-\beta x}}{2} = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\lambda \sin \lambda x}{\beta^2 + \lambda^2} d\lambda$$

Solution Fourier Sine Integral for $f(x)$

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} \sin ux \int_{t=0}^{\infty} f(t) \sin ut \, dt \, du$$

Put $f(t) = e^{-\beta t}$ and replace u by λ

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \sin \lambda x \int_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta t} \sin \lambda t \, dt \, d\lambda \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \sin \lambda x \left[\frac{e^{-\beta t}}{\beta^2 + \lambda^2} \{-\beta \sin \lambda t - \lambda \cos \lambda t\} \right]_0^{\infty} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \sin \lambda x \left[0 + \frac{\lambda}{\beta^2 + \lambda^2} \right] d\lambda \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda \sin \lambda x}{\beta^2 + \lambda^2} d\lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } \frac{\pi e^{-\beta x}}{2} = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\lambda \sin \lambda x}{\beta^2 + \lambda^2} d\lambda$$

Fourier Transform of $f(x)$ or Complex Fourier Transform of $f(x)$

If a function $f(x)$ is defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$, is piecewise continuous in each finite interval and is absolutely integrable in $(-\infty, \infty)$ then Fourier Transform of $f(x)$ is defined as $F(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{ist} dt$

Formulae: Fourier Transform of $f(x)$ and Invers Fourier Transform of $F(s)$

1. Fourier Transform of $f(x) = F(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{ist} dt$
2. Inverse Fourier Transform of $F(s) = f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(s) e^{-isx} ds$
3. Fourier Sine Transform of $f(x) = F_s(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \sin st dt$
4. Invers Fourier Transform of $F_s(s) = f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} F_s(s) \sin sx ds$
5. Fourier Cosine Transform of $f(x) = F_c(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \cos st dt$
6. Invers Fourier Transform of $F_c(s) = f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} F_c(s) \cos sx ds$

Note: If $f(x)$ is odd, Fourier Sine formula is used and If $f(x)$ is even, Fourier Cosine is used.

Ex 1- Find the Fourier Transform of $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 + \frac{x}{a} & -a < x < 0 \\ 1 - \frac{x}{a} & 0 < x < a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Solution Fourier Transform of $f(x) = F(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{ist} dt$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-a}^0 \left(1 + \frac{t}{a}\right) e^{ist} dt + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^a \left(1 - \frac{t}{a}\right) e^{ist} dt \quad \text{Integrating by parts, we get } \left[\int [uv]_1 = uv_1 - u'v_2 + u''u_3 \dots \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\left(1 + \frac{t}{a}\right) \left(\frac{e^{ist}}{is}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{a}\right) \left(\frac{e^{ist}}{-s^2}\right) \right]_{-a}^0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\left(1 - \frac{t}{a}\right) \left(\frac{e^{ist}}{is}\right) - \left(-\frac{1}{a}\right) \left(\frac{e^{ist}}{-s^2}\right) \right]_0^a$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\frac{1}{is} + \frac{1}{as^2} - 0 - \frac{e^{-isa}}{as^2} \right] + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[0 - \frac{e^{isa}}{as^2} - \frac{1}{is} + \frac{1}{as^2} \right] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\frac{2}{as^2} - \frac{1}{as^2} (e^{-isa} + e^{isa}) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\frac{2}{as^2} - \frac{1}{as^2} (2 \cos as) \right] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{2}{as^2} (1 - \cos as)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{2}{as^2} 2 \sin^2 \frac{as}{2} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\pi} as^2} \sin^2 \frac{as}{2}$$

Ex2- Find the Fourier Transform of $f(x) = e^{-|x|}$

Solution We know that $F(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{ist} dt$, $f(t) = e^{-|t|}$

$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-|t|} e^{ist} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-|t|} (\cos st + i \sin st) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-|t|} \cos st dt + i \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-|t|} \sin st dt \end{aligned}$$

Since the first integral is even and second is odd, by Formula for odd even function

$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-|t|} \cos st dt = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} \cos st dt \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{e^{-t}}{1+s^2} \{-\cos st + s \sin st\} \right]_0^{\infty} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[0 + \frac{1}{1+s^2} \right] = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{1}{1+s^2} \end{aligned}$$

Note- Since the given function is even function ie. $f(x) = f(-x)$, we can also apply formula of Fourier Cosine Transform.

Ex 3- Find the Fourier Sine Transform of $f(x) = \frac{e^{-ax}}{x}$

Solution Fourier Sine Transform of $f(x) = F_s(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \sin st \, dt$

$$F_s(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-at}}{t} \sin st \, dt$$

To apply DUIS Rule, differentiate both sides w.r.t.s

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} [F_s(s)] &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-at}}{t} t \cos st \, dt = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{e^{-at}}{a^2+s^2} \{-a \cos st + t \sin st\} \right]_0^{\infty} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[0 - \frac{1}{a^2+s^2} (-a) \right] = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{a}{a^2+s^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Integrating w.r.t. s, we get $F_s(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \tan^{-1} \frac{s}{a} + c, \text{ put } s = 0 \text{ to get } c=0.$

$$\text{Hence } F_s(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \tan^{-1} \frac{s}{a}$$

Ex 4- Find the Fourier Cosine Transform of $f(x) = e^{-2x} + 4e^{-3x}$

Solution Fourier Cosine Transform of $f(x) = F_c(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \cos st \, dt$

$$\begin{aligned} F_c(s) &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} (e^{-2t} + 4e^{-3t}) \cos st \, dt \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2t} \cos st \, dt + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} 4e^{-3t} \cos st \, dt \quad \left(\because \int e^{-ax} \cdot \cos bx \, dx = \frac{e^{-ax}}{a^2 + b^2} [b \sin bx - a \cos bx] \right) \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{e^{-2t}}{2^2 + s^2} \{s \sin st - 2 \cos st\} \right]_0^{\infty} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{4e^{-3t}}{3^2 + s^2} \{s \sin st - 3 \cos st\} \right]_0^{\infty} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[0 + \frac{2}{2^2 + s^2} \right] + \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[0 + \frac{12}{3^2 + s^2} \right] \\ &= 2 \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{1}{4 + s^2} + \frac{6}{9 + s^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Ex 5- Find the Fourier Sine Transform of $e^{-x}, x \geq 0$ and hence deduce that $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x \sin mx}{1+x^2} = \frac{\pi}{2} e^{-m}, (m > 0)$

Solution Fourier Sine Transform of $f(x) = F_s(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \sin st \, dt$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} \sin st \, dt = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{e^{-t}}{1^2 + s^2} \{-\sin st\} - s \cos st \right]_0^{\infty} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[0 + \frac{s}{1^2 + s^2} \right]$$
$$= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{s}{1^2 + s^2}$$

For deduction, we use Inverse Fourier Sine Transform .

By definition, Invers Fourier Transform of $F_s(s) = f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} F_s(s) \sin sx \, ds$

$$e^{-x} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{s}{1^2 + s^2} \sin sx \, ds = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{s \sin sx}{1^2 + s^2} \, ds$$

Replace the dummy variable s by m to get $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x \sin mx}{1+x^2} = \frac{\pi}{2} e^{-m}$

Ex 6- Find the Fourier Cosine Transform of $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x < k \\ 0, & x \geq k \end{cases}$ and also

find $f(x)$ if $F_c(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{\sin ks}{s}$

Solution Fourier Cosine Transform of $f(x) = F_c(s) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^\infty f(t) \cos st \, dt$
 $= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^k 1 \cdot \cos st \, dt = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{\sin st}{s} \right]_0^k = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{\sin sk}{s} \right]$

For second part, we use Inverse Fourier Cosine Transform .

By definition, Invers Fourier Transform of $F_c(s) = f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^\infty F_c(s) \cos sx \, ds$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^\infty \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left[\frac{\sin sk}{s} \right] \cos sx \, ds = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{2s} \{ \sin(k+x)s + \sin(k-x)s \} \, ds \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin(k+x)s + \sin(k-x)s}{s} \, ds = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin(k+x)s}{s} \, ds + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin(k-x)s}{s} \, ds \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right) = 1 \quad \text{if } 0 < x < k \end{aligned}$$

and $= \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{\pi} \left(-\frac{\pi}{2} \right) = 0 \quad \text{if } x \geq k$ Thus $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x < k \\ 0, & x \geq k \end{cases}$