

SI114H-Computational Science and Engineering, 2025 Spring

Homework Set #3

Requirements:

- 1) Deadline: **11pm, 17 May 2025.**
 - 2) About your codes:
 - a) Make sure that your codes can run and are consistent with your results.
 - b) Attach a [Readme.txt](#) file to clearly identify the function of each file.
 - 3) You need to compress three files **code**, **readme** (Add supplementary explanations to the code), and **PDF** (Show your results) into one file, name this file as [student ID + your name](#) and send it to the blackboard system.
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Problem 1. (50 points)

Find the Fourier series on $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$ for

- (a) $f(x) = \sin^3 x$, an odd function
- (b) $f(x) = |\sin x|$, an even function
- (c) $f(x) = x$
- (d) $f(x) = e^x$, using the complex form of the series.

A. Solution

- (a) $f(x) = \sin^3 x$, an odd function

Since $f(x)$ is odd, all cosine coefficients $a_n = 0$. For the sine coefficients:

$$\sin^3 x = \sin x \cdot \sin^2 x = \sin x \cdot \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2} = \frac{\sin x - \sin x \cos 2x}{2}$$

$$\text{Using the identity } \sin A \cos B = \frac{1}{2}[\sin(A+B) + \sin(A-B)]: \sin x \cos 2x = \frac{1}{2}[\sin(x+2x) + \sin(x-2x)] = \frac{1}{2}[\sin 3x - \sin x]$$

$$\text{Therefore: } \sin^3 x = \frac{\sin x - \frac{1}{2}[\sin 3x - \sin x]}{2} = \frac{3 \sin x - \sin 3x}{4}$$

$$\text{So the Fourier series is: } f(x) = \frac{3}{4} \sin x - \frac{1}{4} \sin 3x$$

- (b) $f(x) = |\sin x|$, an even function

Since $f(x)$ is even, all sine coefficients $b_n = 0$. For the constant term and cosine coefficients:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\sin x| dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin x dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin x dx = \frac{2}{\pi} [2] = \frac{4}{\pi}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\sin x| \cos(nx) dx$$

For odd n , these integrals are zero due to symmetry. For even n ($n = 2k$), $a_{2k} = \frac{-4}{\pi} \frac{1}{4k^2 - 1}$

$$\text{The Fourier series is: } f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} - \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2kx)}{4k^2 - 1}$$

(c) $f(x) = x$

This is neither even nor odd, so we need both sine and cosine terms:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x dx = 0$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos(nx) dx = 0 \text{ for all } n \text{ (can be shown by integration by parts)}$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin(nx) dx = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$$

$$\text{The Fourier series is: } f(x) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin(nx) = 2 \left[\sin x - \frac{\sin 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} - \dots \right]$$

(d) $f(x) = e^x$ using the complex form

$$\text{For the complex Fourier series } f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{inx}:$$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^x e^{-inx} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{x-inx} dx$$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{e^{x-inx}}{1-in} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{\pi-in\pi} - e^{-\pi+in\pi}}{1-in} = \frac{e^{\pi}(-1)^n - e^{-\pi}(-1)^n}{2\pi(1-in)}$$

$$c_n = \frac{(-1)^n (e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi})}{2\pi(1-in)} = \frac{(-1)^n \cdot 2 \sinh(\pi)}{2\pi(1-in)} = \frac{(-1)^n \sinh(\pi)}{\pi(1-in)}$$

$$\text{Therefore, the complex Fourier series is: } f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sinh(\pi)}{\pi(1-in)} e^{inx}$$

Problem 2. (50 points)

Show the Gibbs phenomenon using a numerical example.

Gibbs Phenomenon Demonstration:

The plot shows the Fourier series approximation of a square wave.

Notice the overshoot and undershoot near the discontinuities ($t=0$, $t=\pi$, $t=-\pi$).

As the number of terms (N) increases, the approximation gets better overall, but the height of the overshoot remains significant (approx. 9% of the jump), though it gets squeezed into a narrower region around the discontinuity.

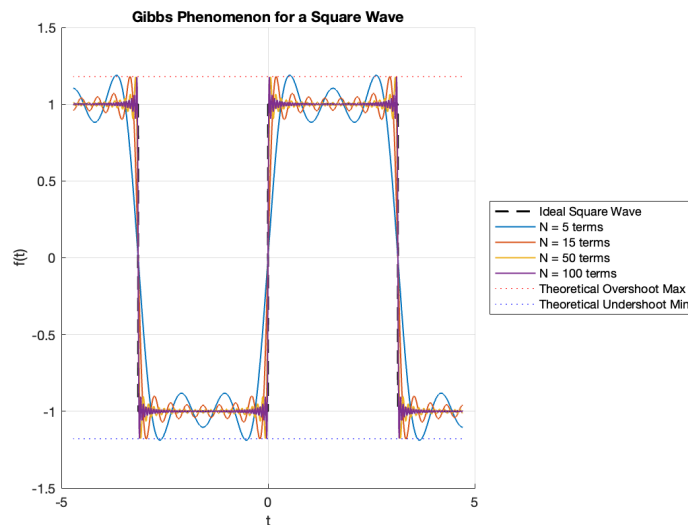


Figure 1. Gibbs Phenomenon