

Example for Fourier series Lecture:

* See example 5.5, pg 143.

Suppose that $f(x) = x(1-x)$. Notice that $f(0) = f(1) = 0$.

find the Fourier Sine series for $f(x)$ on the interval $[0,1]$.

• We know the Fourier sine series for $f(x)$ on $[0,1]$ has the

$$\text{form: } \hat{f}(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x) \quad \text{where } b_n = \int_0^1 f(x) \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x)$$

So we need to compute

$$\int_0^1 x(1-x) \sin(n\pi x) = \int_0^1 x \sin(n\pi x) - \int_0^1 x^2 \sin(n\pi x)$$

$$\int_0^1 x \sin(n\pi x) = \left. \frac{-x \cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} \right|_0^1 - \int_0^1 \left(\frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} \right) dx$$

$$vu' = uv - v'u \quad = -\frac{\cos(n\pi)}{n\pi} + \frac{1}{n\pi} \int_0^1 \cos(n\pi x) dx$$

$$= -\frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi} + \frac{1}{(n\pi)^2} \sin(n\pi x) \Big|_0^1$$

$$= \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi} + 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Likewise } \int_0^1 x^2 \sin(n\pi x) &= \frac{(2 - \pi^2 n^2) \cos(\pi n) + 2 \sin(\pi n) - 2}{\pi^3 n^3} \\
&= \frac{(2 - \pi^2 n^2) (-1)^n + 0 - 2}{\pi^3 n^3} \\
&= \frac{-2(-1)^{n+1} - 2}{\pi^3 n^3} + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi n} \\
&= \frac{-2((-1)^{n+1} - 1)}{\pi^3 n^3} + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi n}
\end{aligned}$$

Combining these terms gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{f}(x) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\sqrt{2} \int_0^1 x(1-x) \sin(n\pi x) dx \right) \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x) \\
&= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(2 \left\{ \int_0^1 x \sin(n\pi x) dx - \int_0^1 x^2 \sin(n\pi x) dx \right\} \right) \sin(n\pi x) \\
&= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(2 \left\{ \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi} - \left(\frac{-2((-1)^{n+1} - 1)}{\pi^3 n^3} + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi n} \right) \right\} \right) \sin(n\pi x) \\
&= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{4((-1)^{n+1} - 1)}{\pi^3 n^3} \right] \sin(n\pi x)
\end{aligned}$$

Note: The Fourier series is technically:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \tilde{\varphi}_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{l}} \sin(n\pi x) \right) \quad \text{where } b_n = \left(\frac{1}{l}, \tilde{\varphi}_n \right).$$

However it is commonplace to take any constant coefficient from $\tilde{\varphi}_n$ and group it with b_n . In this case the $\sqrt{\frac{2}{l}}$ so you will often see

$$b_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{l} x\right) dx$$