

MA 203 Complex Analysis and Differential Equations-II

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Lecture-1

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Contents

- Fourier Series
- Classification of linear second order PDE's in two variables.
- Laplace, wave, and heat equations using separation of variables.
- D' Alembert solution to the wave equations.
- Vibration of a circular membrane.
- Heat equation in the half space.

Questions?

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- Applications of **Fourier Series**!

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Periodic functions

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$$x + p \in \text{Dom}(f) \quad \text{and} \quad f(x + p) = f(x).$$

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- The functions $\sin x$, $\cos x$ and $\tan x$ are periodic functions.
- On the other hand, the functions x , x^2 , x^3 , e^x and $\ln x$ are NOT periodic.
- If the functions

$$f : D \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{and} \quad g : D \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

have period p , then $af + bg$, for any constants a and b , also has the period p . [The statement is also true for more than two functions.]

Two distinct functions $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are said to be *orthogonal* on this interval if

$$\int_a^b f(x) g(x) dx = 0.$$

Theorem 1 (Orthogonality of the trigonometric system)

The trigonometric system

$$\{1, \sin x, \cos x, \sin 2x, \cos 2x, \sin 3x, \cos 3x, \dots, \sin nx, \cos nx, \dots\}$$

is orthogonal on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$ (hence also on $[0, 2\pi]$ or any other interval of length 2π because of periodicity). In other words, for any integers m and n

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mx \cos nx dx = 0 \quad (m \neq n) \quad (1a)$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx \sin nx dx = 0 \quad (m \neq n) \quad (1b)$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx \cos nx dx = 0 \quad (m \neq n \text{ or } m = n). \quad (1c)$$

Proof.

(1) For $m \neq n$,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mx \cos nx \, dx &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{\cos [(m+n)x] + \cos [(m-n)x]}{2} \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos [(m+n)x] \, dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos [(m-n)x] \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\sin [(m+n)x]}{m+n} \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\sin [(m-n)x]}{m-n} \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi} = 0.\end{aligned}$$

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(1b) For $m \neq n$,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx \sin nx \, dx &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{\cos [(m-n)x] - \cos [(m+n)x]}{2} \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos [(m-n)x] \, dx - \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos [(m+n)x] \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\sin [(m-n)x]}{m-n} \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\sin [(m+n)x]}{m+n} \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi} = 0.\end{aligned}$$



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Case II: $m = n$,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx \cos nx \, dx &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin (2nx) \, dx \\&= \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{\cos (2nx)}{2n} \right)_{-\pi}^{\pi} = -\frac{\cos (2n\pi) - \cos (-2n\pi)}{4n} = 0\end{aligned}$$

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Let $f : \text{Dom}(f) \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a periodic function with period 2π . The *Fourier series* representation of f is given by

$$\mathcal{S}_f(x) := \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx). \quad (2)$$

The coefficients $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots$ are referred to as the *Fourier coefficients* of f and are given by

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (3a)$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (3b)$$

Remark 1

A Fourier series for $f(x)$ does NOT always converge to $f(x)$; the sum of the series at some specific point $x = x_0$ may differ from the value $f(x_0)$ of the function at $x = x_0$.

Definition 2

A function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be **piecewise smooth** (or sectionally smooth) if this interval can be divided into a finite number of subintervals such that

- 1 f has a continuous derivative f' in the interior of each of these subintervals,
- 2 and both $f(x)$ and $f'(x)$ approach finite limits as x approaches either endpoint of each of these subintervals from its interior.

In other words, we may say that f is piecewise smooth on $[a, b]$ if both f and f' are piecewise continuous on $[a, b]$.

Theorem 3 (Representation by a Fourier series)

Let $f : [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be periodic with period 2π and **be piecewise smooth** in the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$. Then, the Fourier series of f , i.e., $S_f(x)$ converges at every point x to the value

$$\frac{f(x+) + f(x-)}{2} \quad (4)$$

where $f(x+)$ is the right hand limit of f at x and $f(x-)$ is the left hand limit of f at x . In particular, if f is also continuous at x , the value (4) reduces to $f(x)$ and $S_f(x) = f(x)$.

Find the Fourier series of the periodic function $f(x)$ defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -k & \text{if } -\pi \leq x < 0 \\ k & \text{if } 0 \leq x < \pi \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad f(x + 2\pi) = f(x).$$

Hence show that

$$1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \cdots = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

Proof.

Let the Fourier series representation of f be given by

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

where the *Fourier coefficients* are given by

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$



Proof.

Let us compute the Fourier coefficients as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \, dx \right) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-k) \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} k \, dx \right] = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(-k \int_{-\pi}^0 dx + k \int_0^{\pi} dx \right) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} (-k \times \pi + k \times \pi) = 0.\end{aligned}$$



Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \cos nx \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx \right) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-k) \cos nx \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} k \cos nx \, dx \right] \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left(-k \int_{-\pi}^0 \cos nx \, dx + k \int_0^{\pi} \cos nx \, dx \right) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-k \left(\frac{\sin nx}{n} \right)_{-\pi}^0 + k \left(\frac{\sin nx}{n} \right)_0^{\pi} \right] = 0 \quad \text{for all } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\end{aligned}$$



Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \sin nx \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \right) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-k) \sin nx \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} k \sin nx \, dx \right] \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left(-k \int_{-\pi}^0 \sin nx \, dx + k \int_0^{\pi} \sin nx \, dx \right) \\&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-k \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right)_{-\pi}^0 + k \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right)_0^{\pi} \right] \\&= \frac{k}{n\pi} [\cos 0 - \cos(-n\pi)] - \frac{k}{n\pi} [\cos n\pi - \cos 0] = \frac{2k}{n\pi} (1 - \cos n\pi) \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3,\end{aligned}$$



Proof.

Noting that $\cos n\pi = (-1)^n$,

$$b_n = \frac{2k}{n\pi} [1 - (-1)^n] \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Thus we have,

$$b_1 = \frac{4k}{\pi}, \quad b_2 = 0, \quad b_3 = \frac{4k}{3\pi}, \quad b_4 = 0, \quad b_5 = \frac{4k}{5\pi}, \quad \dots$$

Therefore, the Fourier series of given f is

$$\boxed{\frac{4k}{\pi} \left(\sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \frac{1}{7} \sin 7x + \dots \right)} \quad (\#)$$



Proof.

Note that the function $f(x)$ is discontinuous at the points $x = n\pi$ for all integers n . Nevertheless, at all other points than these, the function $f(x)$ is continuous and its left- and right-hand derivatives exist. Hence, the Fourier series (#) converges to the given $f(x)$ for all $x \neq n\pi$, where n is an integer. Therefore, at $x = \pi/2$,

$$f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{4k}{\pi} \left[\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{3} \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{5} \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{7} \sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{2}\right) + \dots \right]$$
$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{4k}{\pi} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots = \frac{\pi}{4}} \quad (*)$$

