

Fourier Video Notes

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Lesson 8 Part 1 - Intro to Fourier Series

Fourier Series apply to functions that are periodic over some period L

Any square integrable, L -periodic function can be expanded into a series with an amplitude of A_n , discrete frequencies $\frac{2\pi n}{L}$ and phases ϕ_n

This is depicted as follows

$$f(x) = \frac{A_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^N A_n \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L} + \phi_n\right)$$

The Fourier series is guaranteed to converge to $f(x)$ at almost every point, but in engineering applications such as this the conditions of periodicity and square integrability are sufficient for convergence :)

We can also display the Fourier expansion as such

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^N \left(a_n \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) \right)$$

$$a_n = A_n \sin(\phi_n), \quad b_n = A_n \cos(\phi_n)$$

We have now assumed the phase to be zero and with a combination of a sin and cosine we can essentially simulate a phase shift! And this is equivalent through trigonometric relationships

We now have the Fourier coefficients of a and b and we find these values at each frequency sought out.

Now instead of pairs of two numbers we will use complex numbers because it is actually more effective

We denote it as such

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-N}^N c_n e^{i2\pi nx/L}$$

We know that $e^{ix} = \cos(x) + i\sin(x)$ and we now have separated the two values and have these two values but it works more effectively. Another important note is

$$c_n = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(a_n - ib_n) & n > 0 \\ \frac{a_0}{2} & n = 0 \\ c_{|n|}^* & n < 0 \end{cases}$$

We now see that the negative values are actually redundant because of the conjugates being taken out. But it allows for more compact illustrations and an opportunity to improve with efficient algorithms

Lesson 8 Part 2 - Calculating Fourier Coefficients

The following is assuming 2π periodicity ($2\pi = L$)...

Due to the orthogonality of each term in the series we can note that

$$\int_{-L/2}^{L/2} e^{2\pi i n x / L} e^{-2\pi i m x / L} dx = 0$$

in the case that $m \neq n$. This means we can compute them one by one as

$$c_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} f(x) e^{-2\pi i n x / L} dx$$

and it is possible to do this with the sin/cos expansion from before in which we have

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} f(x) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n x}{L}\right) dx$$

You can think of the complex form having the real (cos) and the imaginary (sin)

An example we can put forward is for $f(x) = \frac{x}{\pi}$, $-\pi < x < \pi$

This brings us to the integrals of

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

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

the first value comes out to zero in fact and that second comes to

$$\frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi n}, n \geq 1$$

This demonstrates the function to be completely odd because of it only having sin or imaginary parts and no real parts.

Now we have

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin(nx)$$

Lesson 8 Part 3 - Fourier Transform

The Fourier Transform is intended to extend the concept of fourier series into functions that usually do not fit the parameters of convergence

If we take the L-periodicity we continue to grow the amount of times it occurs and arrives to a continue frequency

We define the FT and iFT as follows

$$\hat{f}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

$$f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\omega)e^{i\omega t} d\omega$$

Some important properties of a fourier transform is

Linearity -

$$F(f + g) = F(f) + F(g), \quad F(af) = aF(f)$$

Energy Preserving -

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(t)|^2 dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(\omega)|^2 d\omega, \quad |\hat{f}(\omega)|^2 = \text{Power Spectrum}$$

The power spectrum is invariant to shifts as well

Another important property is that of the convolution theorem which is as follows

$$f * g \equiv \tilde{f}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)g(t - \tau)d\tau$$

We can also do this process in the fourier space

$$F(f * g) = F(f)F(g) = \hat{f}\hat{g}$$

Now we can see that the convolution in physical space is the same as the product of the functions in fourier space and now we can see the relationship

$$f * g = F^{-1}(\hat{f}\hat{g})$$

A convolution is along the lines of a $O(n^2)$ process and fourier transforms are simply $O(n \log n)$ which is far more efficient

Lesson 8 Part 4 - DFT Basic Idea

With discretely sampled data we work with the aptly named Discrete Fourier Transform which can be derived from the discretized integral or the Fourier Series Formulation

This leads to the same outcome with a finite sum of discrete frequencies

$$X_k \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n e^{-2\pi i k n / N}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$$

We only look at the first half of possible frequencies as the others cannot be resolved as there won't be more than one sample of those values and it's not enough data to see the differences.

We only look at integer values due to it being discrete

It is also important to note that energy preservation exists in DFT

$$\sum_{k=1}^N |X_k|^2 = \sum_{t=1}^N (x_t)^2$$

assuming zero mean. We also can do convolution.

Small Note -

We also have the scaled periodogram from Shumway

$$P(j/n) = \left(\frac{2}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n x_t \cos(2\pi t j / n) \right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n x_t \sin(2\pi t j / n) \right)^2$$

This is the square of the DF coefficients at each discrete frequency.