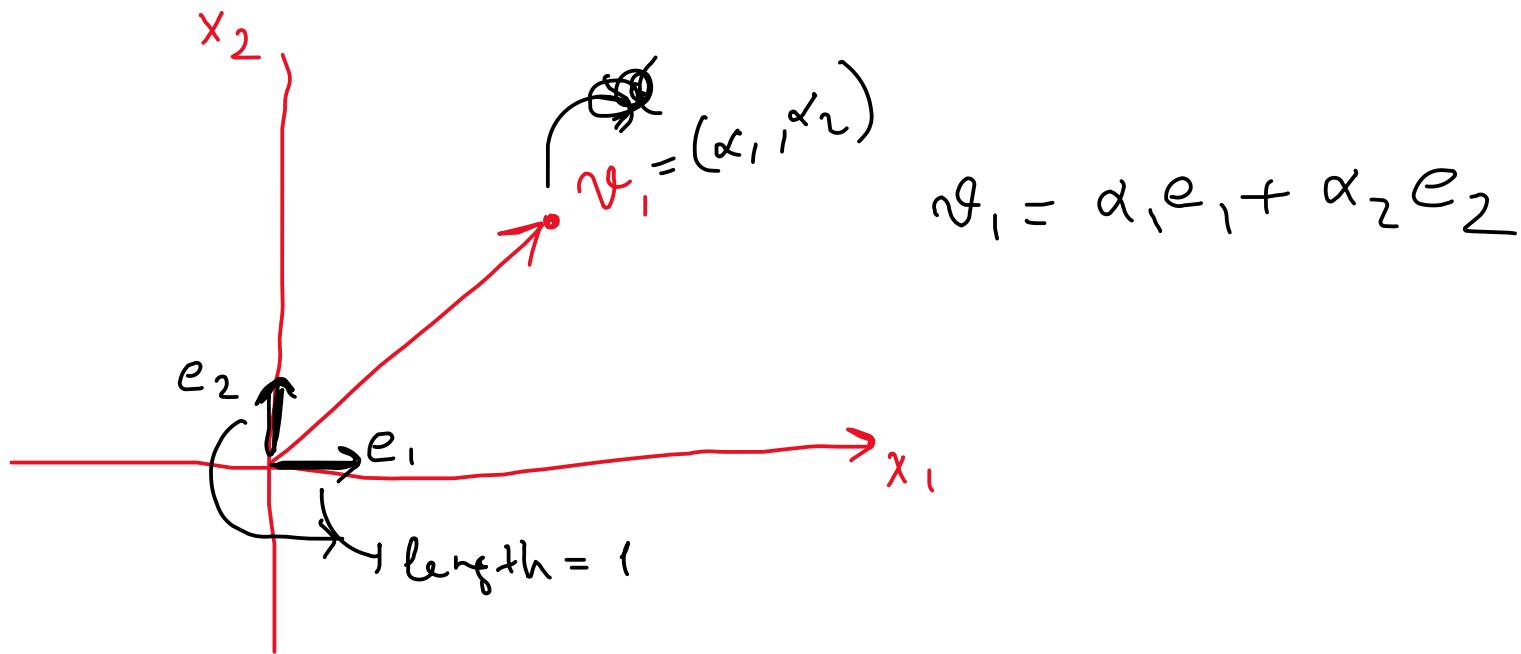


FOURIER SERIES



What is periodic function?

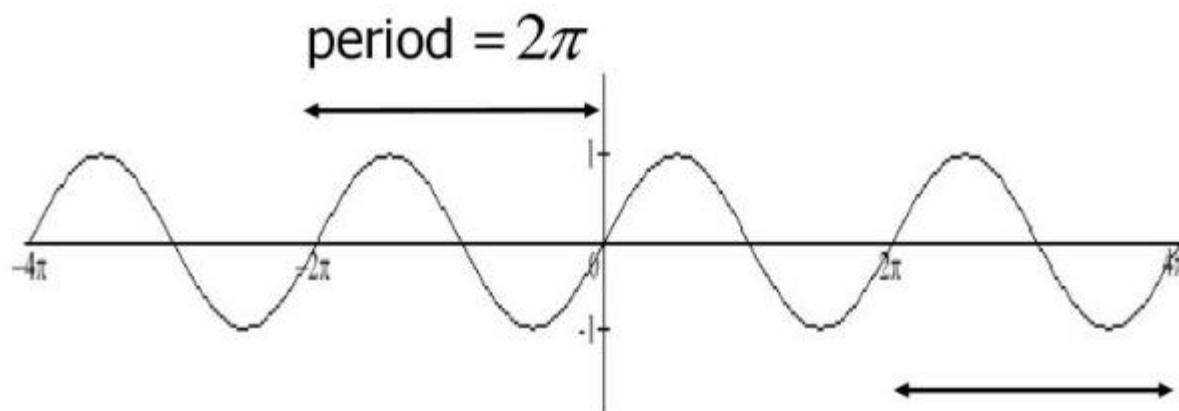
A function f is said periodic if there exists a smallest positive number T such that

$$f(x+T) = f(x) \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in the domain.}$$



period of f

Illustration



Introduction

- Let f be a periodic function of period T
- It can be proved that f can be expressed as the sum of an infinite number of sine and/or cosine functions.

$$Sf(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi t}{T} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi t}{T} \right)$$

Constant \leftarrow DC value

- This infinite sum is known as a **Fourier Series**.

Introduction

The coefficients $a_0, a_n, b_n, \ n = 1, 2, \dots$
are known as **Fourier coefficients**.

They can be obtained by

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \cos \frac{2n\pi t}{T} dt$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \sin \frac{2n\pi t}{T} dt$$

Introduction

If we write out the first few terms of the infinite series explicitly, we find:

$$Sf(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + a_1 \cos \frac{2\pi t}{T} + b_1 \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} + a_2 \cos \frac{4\pi t}{T} + b_2 \sin \frac{4\pi t}{T} \dots$$

Introduction

- a_n are the amplitudes of the cosine terms in the series,
- b_n are the amplitudes of the sine terms in the series.

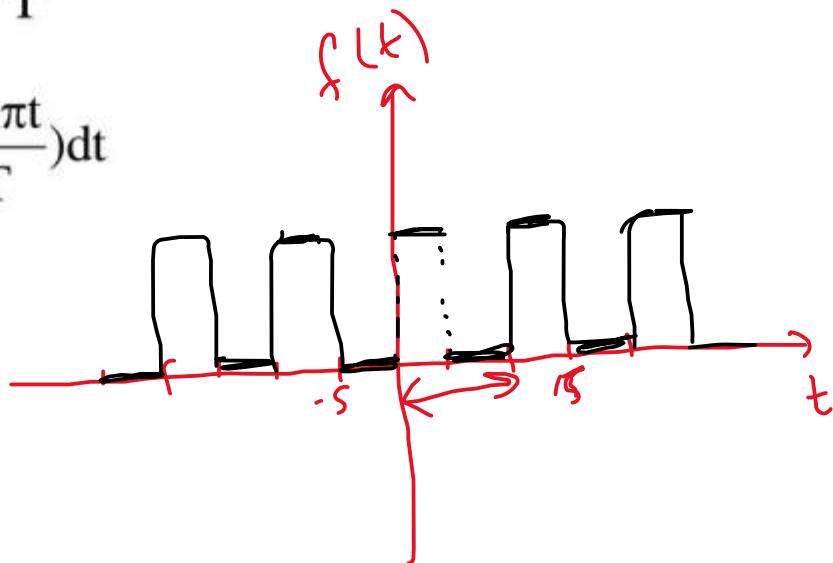
Example 1

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & -5 < t < 0 \\ 1 & 0 < t < 5 \end{cases} \quad \text{period } T = 10,$$

Evaluate $a_0 = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) dt$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T}\right) dt$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T}\right) dt$$



Solution 1

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & -5 < t \leq 0 \\ 1 & 0 < t < 5 \end{cases} \quad T = 10,$$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{10} \int_0^{10} f(t) dt$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{5} \left(\int_0^5 f(t) dt + \int_5^{10} f(t) dt \right)$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{5} \left(\int_0^5 1 dt + \int_5^{10} 0 dt \right) = 1$$


Solution 1

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & -5 < t < 0 \\ 1 & 0 < t < 5 \end{cases} \quad T = 10,$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T}\right) dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{5} \int_0^5 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi t}{5}\right) dt$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{5} \frac{5}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi t}{5}\right) \Big|_0^5 = \frac{\sin(n\pi)}{n\pi} = 0$$

$$t=5 \Rightarrow \sin(n\pi) = 0$$

$$t=0 \Rightarrow \sin(0) = 0$$

$$0 - 0 = 0$$

Solution 1

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & -5 < t < 0 \\ 1 & 0 < t < 5 \end{cases} \quad T = 10,$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi t}{T}\right) dt$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{5} \int_0^5 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi t}{5}\right) dt$$

$$b_n = -\frac{1}{5} \frac{5}{n\pi} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi t}{5}\right) \Big|_0^5 = \frac{1 - \cos(n\pi)}{n\pi} = \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n\pi}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -\frac{1}{n\pi} \left\{ \cos(n\pi) - \cos(0) \right\} \\ &= -\frac{1}{n\pi} \left[(-1)^n - 1 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} n &= 2, 4, 6, \dots \\ \cos(n\pi) &= 1 = (-1)^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} n &= 1, 3, 5 \\ \cos(n\pi) &= -1 = (-1)^n \end{aligned}$$

Fourier Series when T=2L

- Let $f(x)$ be defined in the interval $(c, c+2L)$.
- It can be represented in the given interval by the following Fourier Series:

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

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_c^{c+2L} f(x) dx$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_c^{c+2L} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L} x\right) dx$$

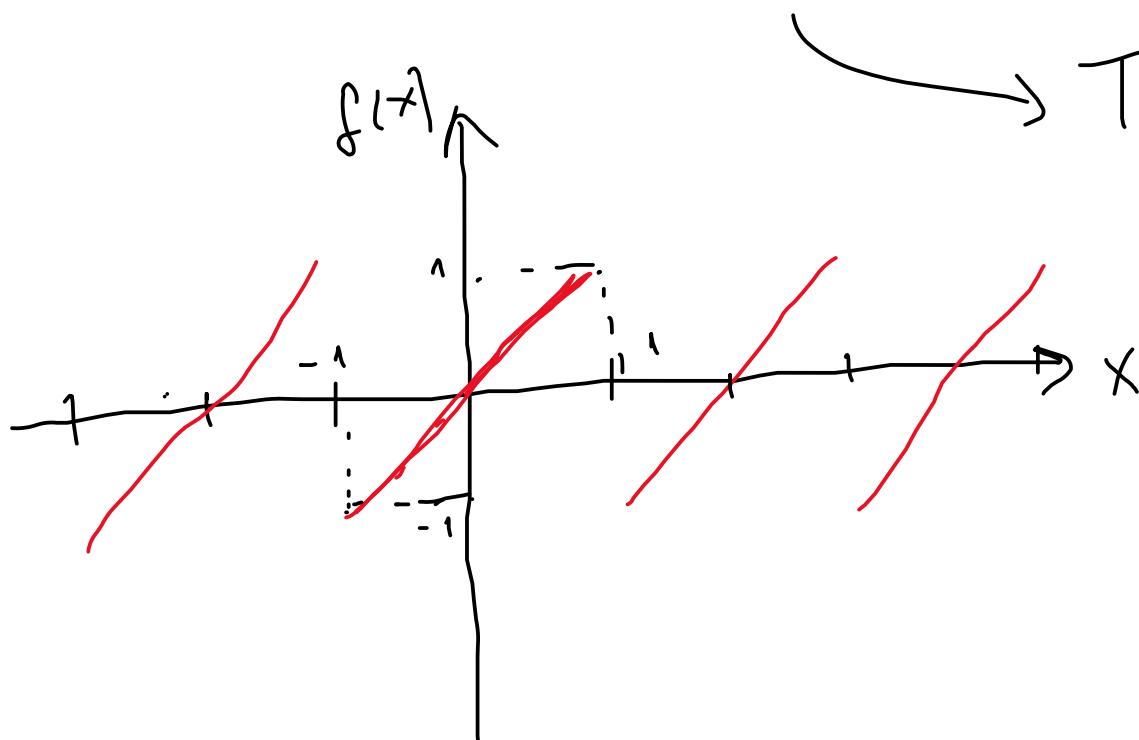
$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_c^{c+2L} f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L} x\right) dx$$

Exercise 2:

Find the Fourier Series of the function of period 2 :

$$\downarrow$$

$$f(x) = x, \quad -1 < x < 1.$$



$$\begin{aligned} T &= (1) - (-1) = 2 \\ &= 2L \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow L = 1$$

$$C = 1$$

Solution 2

Here $C = -1$ and $L = 1$.

Thus the Fourier Series is

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

Solution 2

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x)dx = \int_{-1}^1 xdx$$

$$= \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \right]_{-1}^1 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = 0$$

Solution 2

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n &= \int_{-1}^1 x \cos(n\pi x) dx = \left[x \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) \right]_{-1}^1 - \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) dx \\
 &= 0 - \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) dx = \frac{1}{(n\pi)^2} [\cos(n\pi x)]_{-1}^1 \\
 &= \frac{\cos(n\pi) - \cos(-n\pi)}{(n\pi)^2} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left\{ u \cdot dv = u \cdot v - \int v \cdot du \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sin(n\pi x) &= \sin(n\pi) = 0 & x=1 \\
 \sin(n\pi x) &= \sin(-n\pi) = 0 & x=-1 \\
 \cos(\theta) &= \cos(-\theta)
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_n &= \int_{-1}^1 x \sin(n\pi x) dx = \left[-x \frac{1}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi x) \right]_{-1}^1 + \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi x) dx \\
 &= \left[-\frac{x}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi x) \right]_{-1}^1 + \left[\frac{1}{(n\pi)^2} \sin(n\pi x) \right]_{-1}^1 \quad \begin{array}{l} \sin(n\pi) = 0 \\ \sin(-n\pi) = 0 \end{array} \\
 &= \frac{-\cos(n\pi) - \cos(-n\pi)}{(n\pi)} + 0 = \frac{-2 \cos(n\pi)}{(n\pi)} = \frac{-2(-1)^n}{(n\pi)} \\
 &= \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{(n\pi)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots$$

Solution 2

$$\text{Thus, } a_0 = 0, \quad a_n = 0, \quad b_n = \frac{2}{n\pi} (-1)^{n+1}$$

When $-1 < x < 1$, the Fourier Series is

$$S_f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{2}{n\pi} (-1)^{n+1} \sin(n\pi x) \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin(n\pi x) \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\sin \pi x - \frac{\sin 2\pi x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3\pi x}{3} - \dots \right]$$

Exercise 3:

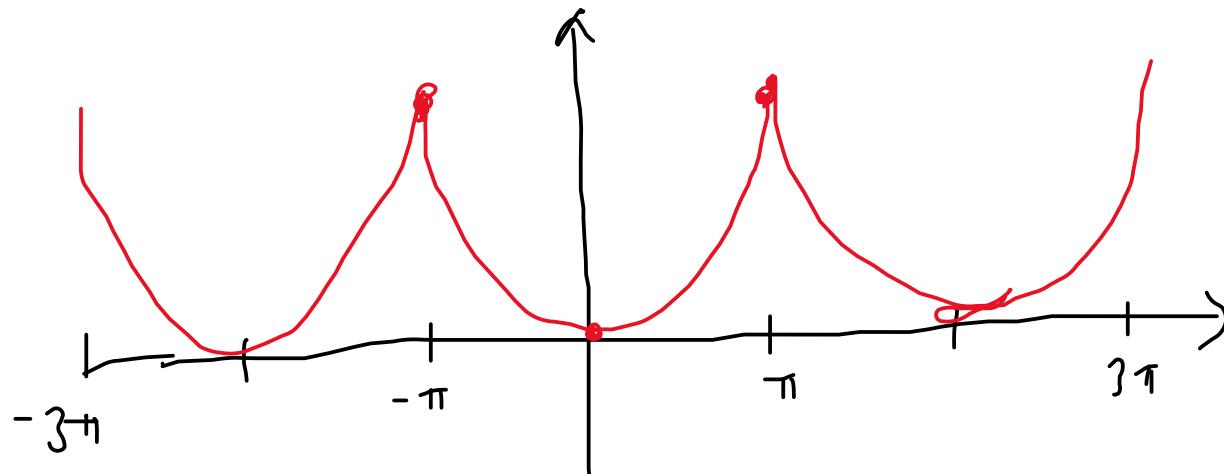
Represent the following function by a Fourier Series:

$$f(x) = x^2, \quad -\pi < x < \pi \quad T = 2\pi = 2L$$

Solution 3:

$$C = -\pi, L = \pi$$

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



Solution 3:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3\pi} [\pi^3 - (-\pi^3)] = \frac{2\pi^2}{3}$$

Solution 3:

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \cos(nx) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left[x^2 \left(\frac{1}{n} \sin(nx) \right) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 2x \left(\frac{1}{n} \sin(nx) \right) dx \right] \\
 &\quad \text{0} \quad \text{u} \quad \text{v} \quad \text{d}v \quad \text{d}u \\
 &= -\frac{2}{n\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin(nx) dx \\
 &= -\frac{2}{n\pi} \left[\left[x(-1/n) \cos(nx) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (-1/n) \cos(nx) dx \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow v = \frac{1}{n} \sin(nx)$
 $\Rightarrow du = 1 \times dx$
 $v \cdot du$
 dv

Solution 3:

$$= -\frac{2}{n\pi} \left[\left[x(-1/n) \cos(nx) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (-1/n) \cos(nx) dx \right]$$

$$= -\frac{2}{n\pi} \left[-\frac{2\pi}{n} \cos n\pi + \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sin nx \right)_{-\pi}^{\pi} \right]$$

$$= \frac{4}{n^2} \cos n\pi = (-1)^n \frac{4}{n^2}$$

Solution 3:

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \sin nx \, dx$$

$\overbrace{x^2 \sin nx}^{f(x) \approx}$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left[x^2 (-1/n) \cos nx \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 2x (-1/n) \cos nx \, dx \right]$$

$\overbrace{2x \cos nx}^{du}$

$$= \frac{2}{n\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx = \dots = 0$$

~~$\neq 0$~~

Solution 3:

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{3}\pi^2, \quad a_n = (-1)^n \frac{4}{n^2} \text{ and } b_n = 0$$

Thus when $-\pi < x < \pi$, the Fourier Series for x^2 , is

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3}\pi^2 \right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left((-1)^n \frac{4}{n^2} \cos nx \right) \\&= \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left((-1)^n \frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right) \\&= \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \left(-\cos x + \frac{\cos 2x}{4} - \frac{\cos 3x}{9} + \dots \right)\end{aligned}$$



Convergence and Sum of a Fourier Series

Not all periodic functions , defined over any type of interval, can be represented by Fourier series.

For a function, defined over an interval, to be represented by Fourier Series, it must satisfy certain conditions, known as Dirichlet Conditions.

Dirichlet Conditions

1. f must be well-defined at every x in the interval.
2. f must be continuous or have a finite number of finite discontinuities within the interval.
3. f' must be continuous or piecewise continuous within the interval

Examples:

1. Both the functions

$$f(x) = x, \quad -1 < x < 1 \quad \text{and}$$

$$f(x) = x^2, \quad -2 < x < 2$$

satisfy Dirichlet's conditions.

2. $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

infinite discontinuity at $x = 0$.

Dirichlet conditions not satisfied

$$3. \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{x-5}, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$$

Although the function has an infinite discontinuity at $x = 5$, this point is not in the given interval. Conditions are satisfied.

$$4. \quad f(x) = \tan x, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$$

Infinite discontinuities at $x = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ and $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$
Conditions not satisfied.

Value of the FS at a point of continuity

If f satisfies Dirichlet conditions and let S be the Fourier series of f at $x = a$.

If f is continuous at a then

$$Sf(a) = f(a)$$

Value of the FS at a point of discontinuity

If f is discontinuous at a :

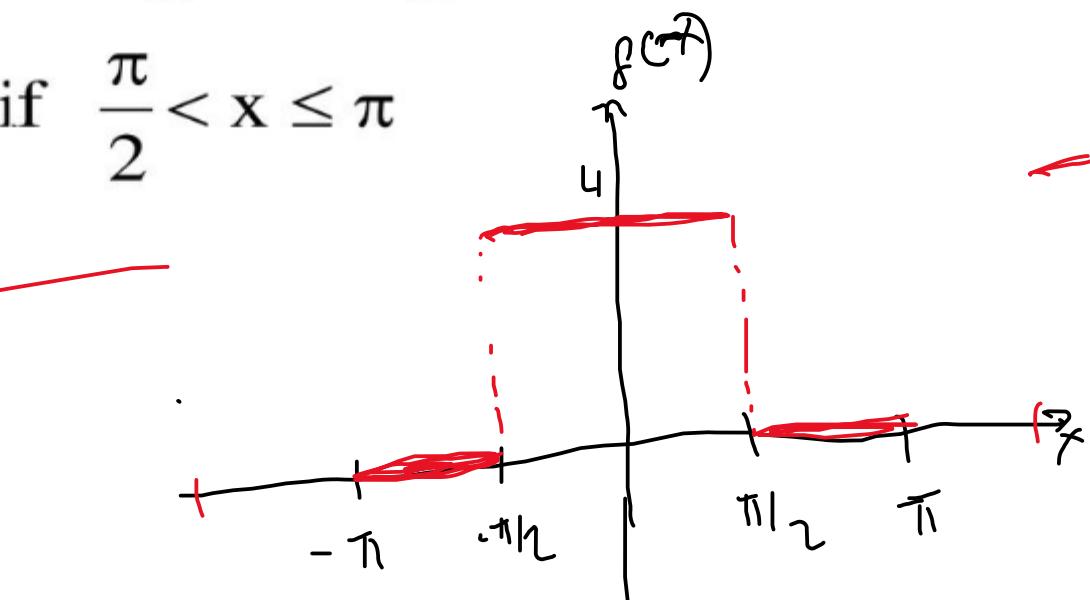
Let $f(a^-)$ and $f(a^+)$ be the left and right limits respectively.
Then the value of the Fourier Series at $x = a$ is:

$$Sf(a) = \frac{f(a^-) + f(a^+)}{2}$$

Exercise 4:

Find the Fourier Series for the following 2π -periodic function in the given interval:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } -\pi < x \leq -\frac{\pi}{2} \\ 4, & \text{if } -\frac{\pi}{2} < x \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ 0, & \text{if } \frac{\pi}{2} < x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$



Solution 4:

$$\pi = 2\pi = 2L$$

$$C = -\pi \text{ and } L = \pi$$

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

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx$$

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

Since the function is defined in three pieces over the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$, each integral has to be evaluated separately over the three pieces and the results summed up

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^{-\frac{\pi}{2}} 0 dx + \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 4 dx + \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} 0 dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} (0 + 4\pi + 0) = 4 \end{aligned}$$

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

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^{-\frac{\pi}{2}} 0 \cos(nx) dx + \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 4 \cos(nx) dx + \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} 0 \cos(nx) dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[0 + \frac{4}{n} \left(\sin(nx) \right) \Big|_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} + 0 \right] = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{4}{n} \left[2 \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{8}{n\pi} \sin \left(\frac{n\pi}{2} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^{-\frac{\pi}{2}} 0 \sin nx \, dx + \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 4 \sin nx \, dx + \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} 0 \sin nx \, dx \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[0 + 4 \left(-\frac{\cos(nx)}{n} \right) \Big|_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} + 0 \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} [0 + 0 + 0] = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the Fourier Series representing the given function is:

$$Sf(x) = \frac{4}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \cos nx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2 + \frac{8}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \cos nx}{n} \\
 &= 2 + \frac{8}{\pi} \left(\sin \frac{\pi}{2} \cos x + \frac{\sin \pi \cos 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin \frac{3\pi}{2} \cos 3x}{3} + \dots \right) \\
 &= 2 + \frac{8}{\pi} \left[\cos x - \frac{\cos 3x}{3} + \frac{\cos 5x}{5} - \frac{\cos 7x}{7} + \dots \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

The function is discontinuous at $x = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ and $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$

At $x = -\frac{\pi}{2}$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\frac{\pi}{2}^-} f(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\frac{\pi}{2}^+} f(x) = 4$

At $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^-} f(x) = 4$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^+} f(x) = 0$

$$S(-\frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{0+4}{2} = 2$$

$$S(\frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{4+0}{2} = 2$$

We can plot the graphs of $f(x)$ and its representation by Fourier Series and see how close the approximation is.

Let

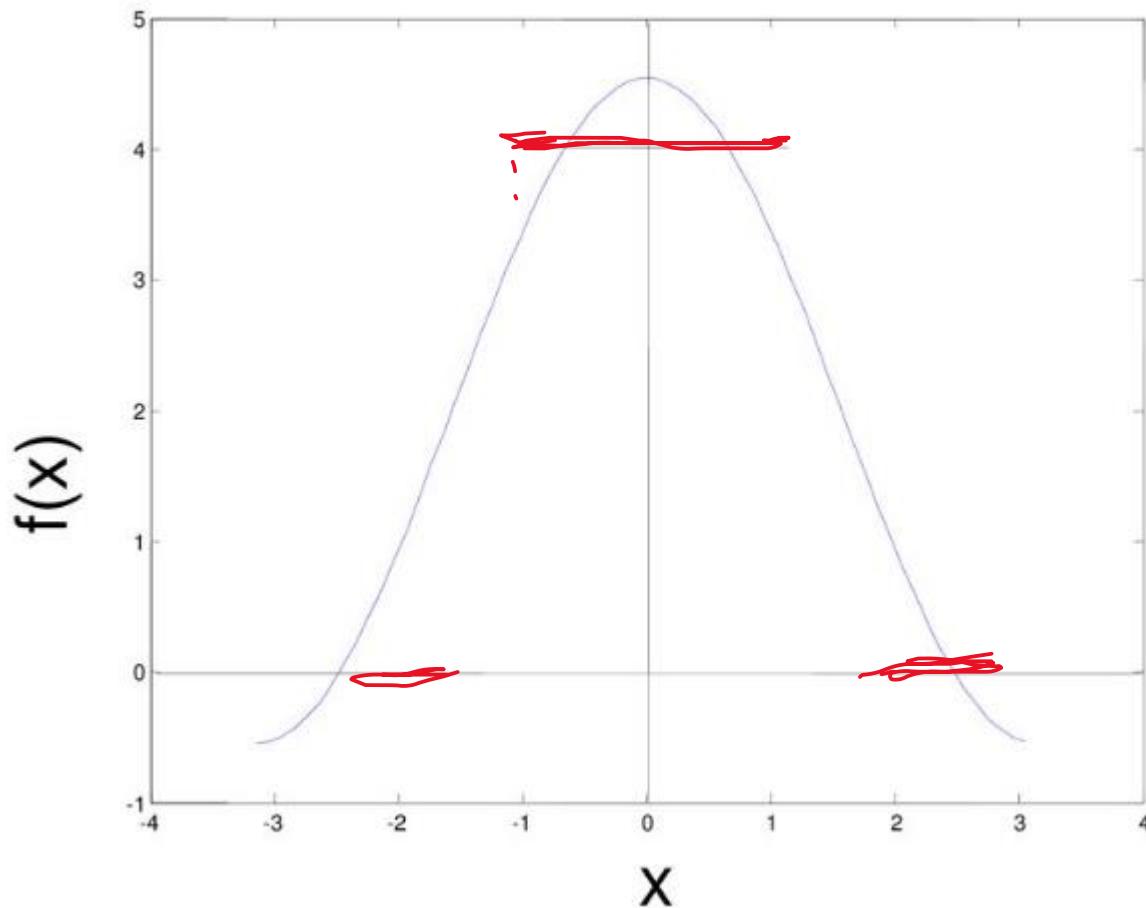
$$y = f(x)$$

$$y_1 = 2 + \left(\frac{8}{\pi}\right) \cos x$$

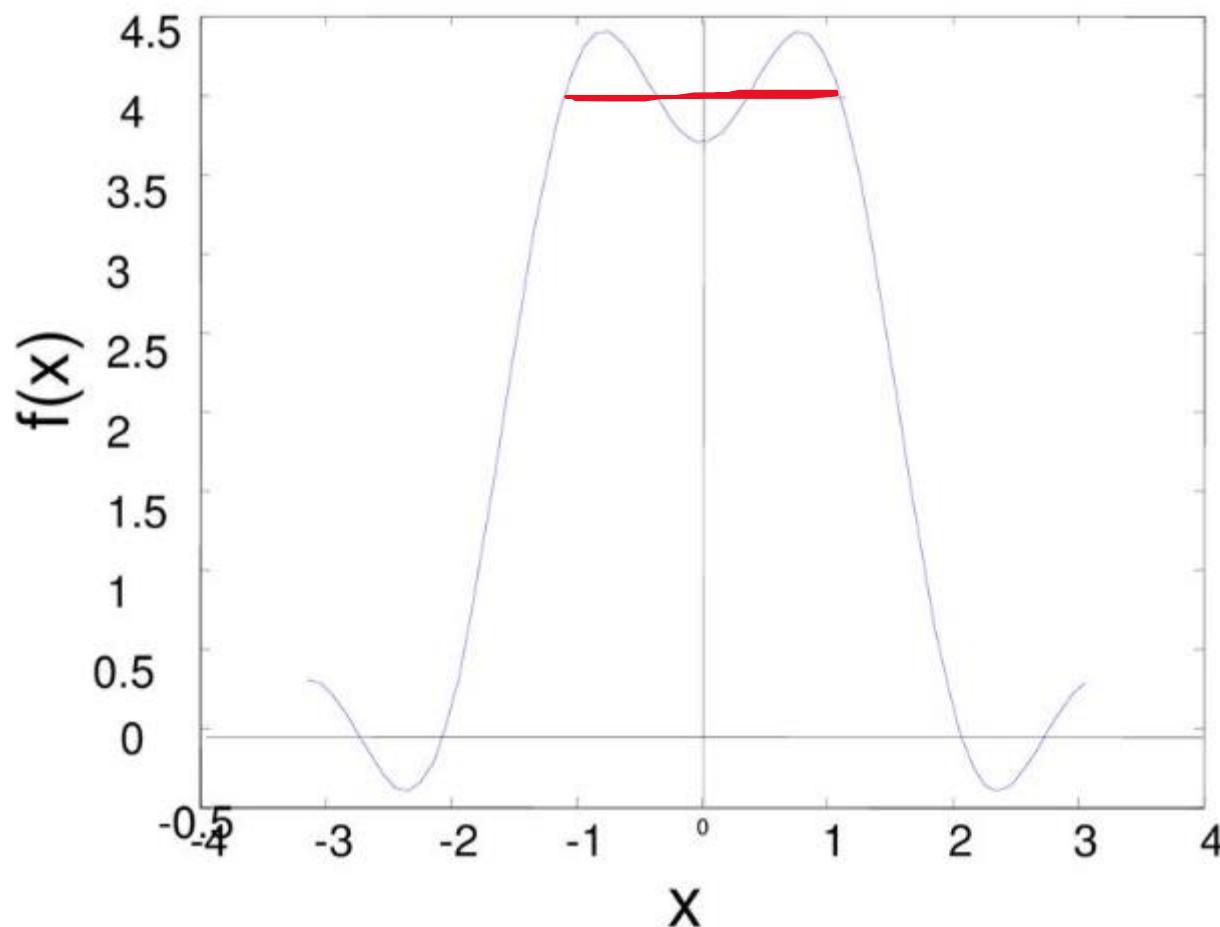
$$y_2 = 2 + \left(\frac{8}{\pi}\right) \left(\cos x - \frac{\cos(3x)}{3} \right)$$

$$y_3 = 2 + \left(\frac{8}{\pi}\right) \left(\cos x - \frac{\cos(3x)}{3} + \frac{\cos(5x)}{5} - \frac{\cos(7x)}{7} + \frac{\cos(9x)}{9} \right)$$

Graph of $y=f(x)$ and $y=y_1$



Graph of $y=f(x)$ and $y = y_2$



Graph of $y = f(x)$ and $y = y_3$

