

Phys512: Assign-4

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Problem 5 Part-a

Formula for sum of a geometric series follows as follows:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c\alpha^n = c \frac{\alpha^N - 1}{\alpha - 1} \quad (1)$$

Similarly we are asked to calculate:

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \exp(-2\pi i k x / N) = ? \quad (2)$$

So for,

$$\alpha = \exp(-2\pi i k / N) \quad (3)$$

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \exp(-2\pi i k x / N) = \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \exp(-2\pi i k / N)^x = \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} c\alpha^x = c \frac{\alpha^N - 1}{\alpha - 1} \quad (4)$$

Therefore, (with $c = 1$)

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \exp(-2\pi i k / N)^x = \frac{\exp(-2\pi i k / N)^N - 1}{\exp(-2\pi i k / N) - 1} \quad (5)$$

or,

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \exp(-2\pi i k / N)^x = \frac{1 - \exp(-2\pi i k / N)^N}{1 - \exp(-2\pi i k / N)} \quad (6)$$

Problem 5 Part-b

To show the value of the series sum in the limit $k \rightarrow 0$, we can simply apply L'Hospital rule as follow:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \exp(-2\pi i x k / N) &= \frac{\frac{d}{dk} (1 - \exp(-2\pi i k / N)^N)}{\frac{d}{dk} (1 - \exp(-2\pi i k / N))} \\ &= \frac{-(-2\pi i) \exp(-2\pi i k / N)}{-(-2\pi i) \exp(-2\pi i k / N)} \\ &= \frac{-(-2\pi i)}{-(-2\pi i / N)} \\ &= N \end{aligned}$$

Here in the third step we took $\exp(-2\pi i k / N) = \exp(-2\pi i k) = 1$ which happens for $k = 0, N$ due to the periodicity of N . For any other value of k we need not take any limit. For integer values of k (other than $0, N$): $\exp(-2\pi i k) = 1$ which makes the numerator go to zero, while the denominator term doesn't due to $1/N$ in the exponent. Thus, for integral values of k (other than $0, N, 2N, \dots$)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \exp(-2\pi i x k / N) &= \frac{\frac{d}{dk} (1 - \exp(-2\pi i k / N)^N)}{\frac{d}{dk} (1 - \exp(-2\pi i k / N))} \\ &= \frac{1 - 1}{1 - \exp(-2\pi i k / N)} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$