

# Oscillations in Harmonic Analysis

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[Problem sets](#)

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I'd love to hear your feedback. Feel free to email me at [coscohua@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:coscohua@mail.sfsu.edu).  
See [git:icarlitoss/uss-pcmi](https://github.com/icarlitoss/uss-pcmi) for updates.

## Contents

# 1 Introduction

← July 2, 2018

## Combinatorics

### 1.0.1 Erdős problem

1. Erdős distinct distance problem (1946).

What is the least number of distinct distances determined by  $N$  points in a plane.

**Example 1.1.** We have four points  $(0, 1), (2, 2), (0, 0), (1, 0)$ , and if we start listing the distances between each of them we obtain the following:

$$1, 1, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{5}, \sqrt{5}, \sqrt{8}.$$

However, we care about the distinct number; hence we get a new list

$$1, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{5}, \sqrt{8}.$$

Upper bound: Notice that the first list is obtain by getting the distance between two points, hence

$$\binom{N}{2} = \frac{1}{2}N^2 - \frac{1}{2}N \sim N^2.$$

are obtained random.

To analyze what happens with the lower bound, we look at the following example.

**Example 1.2.** (a) Say  $N$  is a perfect square.

(b) Then, we have an square of  $\sqrt{N}$  lattice.

(c) Now, let's count

$$(\text{distinct distcnes})^2.$$

(d) We obtain the list:

$$1, 2, \dots, 2N.$$

(e) Hence we get no more than  $\sim N$ .

(f) Notice that  $a^2 + b^2 = 3$  has no solution (number theory). Hence our list (d) have holes.

(g) Hence,

$$\# \text{ distinct distance} \sim \frac{N}{\sqrt{\log(N)}} \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty.$$

**Conjecture.** Conjecture (Erdős 1946): The answer for Erdos 1946 should be in the order of  $\frac{N}{\sqrt{\log(N)}}$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Theorem** (Erdős 1946). *At least  $\sim \sqrt{N}$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .*

**Theorem** (Guth, Katz 2015). *At least  $\sim \frac{N}{\log(N)}$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .*

2. Crescent Configurations  $N$  points in the plane such that distance  $d_1$  appears 1 times,  $d_2$  appears 2 times, and so on, until  $d_{N-1}$  appears  $N - 1$  times. ( $N - 1$  distinct distances). It is possible to achieve this if you place equally spaced points on a line. Additionally require general position no more than 2 points on a line, and no more than 3 points on a circle. Call a crescent configuration.

**Example 1.3.** We can go from 3 pts to 8 points in crescent configuration. It is unknown if we could find a 9 point or higher order configurations.

**Conjecture** (Erdős). Eventually they do not exist.

Question: Find many (all) crescent configurations for some  $N$ .

**Example 1.4.** Given  $N = 4$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

Question: For  $N = 5$ . Many known but not all.

## 2 Review on Vector Spaces

← July 3, 2018

### 2.1 Inner Product

An *inner product* is a map

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow F$$

that satisfies for all  $f, g, h \in V$ , and  $\alpha, \beta \in F$ .

1.  $\langle f, f \rangle \geq 0$  and  $\langle f, f \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow f = 0$ .
2.  $\langle f, g \rangle = \langle g, f \rangle$ .
3.  $\langle \alpha f + \beta g, h \rangle = \alpha \langle f, h \rangle + \beta \langle g, h \rangle$ .

**Example 2.1.** In  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , we have

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x \cdot y = x_1 y_1 + \cdots + x_d y_d.$$

**Example 2.2.** In  $\mathbb{C}^d$ , we have

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x \cdot y = x_1 \bar{y}_1 + \cdots + x_d \bar{y}_d.$$

**Example 2.3.** In  $\mathcal{C}[a, b]$ , we have

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx$$

### 2.2 Norm

A *norm* is a function

$$\| \cdot \| : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

that satisfies for all  $f, g \in V$  and  $\alpha \in F$ .

1.  $\|f\| \geq 0$  and if  $\|f\| = 0$  then  $f = 0$ .

2.  $\|\alpha f\| = |\alpha| \|f\|$ .
3.  $\|f + g\| \leq \|f\| + \|g\|$  (triangle inequality).

In a vector space  $V$  with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  get a norm for free.

$$\|f\| := \sqrt{\langle f, f \rangle}.$$

**Definition** (Cauchy-Schwartz Inequality).

$$|\langle f, g \rangle| \leq \|f\| \|g\|.$$

Hint for Problem set: Implies triangle inequality.

$$\begin{aligned} \|f + g\|^2 &= \langle f + g, f + g \rangle \\ &= \|f\|^2 + \langle f, g \rangle + \langle f, g \rangle + \|g\|^2 \\ &\quad (\text{by CS}) \leq \|f\|^2 + 2\|f\| \|g\| + \|g\|^2 \\ &= (\|f\| + \|g\|)^2. \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2.4.** On  $\mathcal{C}[a, b]$  with

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx$$

get

$$\|f\|_2 = \left( \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

## 2.3 Orthogonality

Say  $f, g \in V$  are orthogonal if

$$\langle f, g \rangle = 0.$$

Say  $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\}$  are orthogonal if  $\langle \phi_j, \phi_k \rangle = 0$  whenever  $j \neq k$  and  $\phi_j \neq 0$  for all  $j$ .

If in addition  $\|\phi_j\| = 1$  for all  $j$  then  $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\}$  is *orthonormal*.

Note: Remember Gram-Schmidt.

**Theorem** (Pythagorean Theorem). If  $\langle f, g \rangle = 0$  then  $\|f + g\|^2 = \|f\|^2 + \|g\|^2$ .

## 2.4 Projections

Let  $\phi \in B$  with  $\|\phi\| = 1$ . The projection of  $f$  in the direction of  $\phi$  is

$$\text{proj}_\phi(f) := \langle f, \phi \rangle \phi.$$

**Example 2.5.** Project  $f = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  on  $\phi = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$\text{proj}_\phi(f) := \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Definition.** Let  $W_n$  be a subspace of  $V$  with an orthonormal basis  $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\}$ . The projection of  $f$  onto  $W_n$  is.

$$\text{proj}_{W_n}(f)L = \langle f, \phi_1 \rangle \phi_1 + \dots + \langle f, \phi_n \rangle \phi_n.$$

**Theorem.**

$$\text{proj}_{W_n}(f) = 0 \iff f \in W_n.$$

**Theorem.**  $f - \text{proj}_{W_n}$  is orthonormal to every vector in  $W_n$ .

### 3 Fourier Series

← July 5, 2018

**Theorem.** Let  $f \in V$ . Let  $W_n$  be a subspace of  $V$  with an orthonormal basis  $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\}$ . The element  $w \in W_n$  that minimizes  $\|f - w\|$  is

$$w = \text{proj}_{W_n}(f). \quad \leftarrow \text{Best approximation}$$

*Proof.* Write:

$$w = \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i \phi_i$$

and set

$$\alpha_i = \langle f, \phi_i \rangle, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - w\|^2 &= \langle f - w, f - w \rangle \\ &= \|f\|^2 - \langle f, \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i \phi_i \rangle - \overline{\langle f, \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i \phi_i \rangle} + \langle \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i \phi_i, \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j \phi_j \rangle \\ &= \|f\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{\beta_i} \langle f, \phi_i \rangle - \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{\beta_i} \overline{\langle f, \phi_i \rangle} + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_i \overline{\beta_j} \langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle \\ &= \|f\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{\beta_i} \alpha_i - \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i \overline{\alpha_i} + \sum_{i=1}^n |\beta_i|^2 \\ &= \|f\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n (\beta_i - \alpha_i) \overline{\beta_i - \alpha_i} - \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \\ &= \|f\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle f, \phi_i \rangle|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n |\beta_i - \alpha_i|^2. \end{aligned}$$

So minimized if  $\beta_i = \alpha_i = \langle f, \phi_i \rangle$ . □

Remark:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \langle f, \phi_i \rangle \phi_i \quad \text{best approximation to } f.$$

**Corollary.**

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |\langle f, \phi_i \rangle|^2 \leq \|f\|^2.$$

**Bessel's inequality:**

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |\langle f, \phi_i \rangle|^2 \leq \|f\|^2.$$

**Riemann-Lebesgue Lemma:**

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \langle f, \phi_i \rangle = 0.$$

Motivation:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos(nx) \cos(mx) dx &= \begin{cases} 0 & n \neq m \\ \frac{1}{2} & n = m \neq 0 \\ 1 & n = m = 0. \end{cases} \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(nx) \sin(mx) dx &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } n = m \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(nx) \cos(mx) dx &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$1, \sqrt{2} \cos(x), \sqrt{2} \sin(x), \sqrt{2} \cos(2x), \sqrt{2} \sin(2x), \dots$$

orthonormal sequence on  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

Best finite approximation up to level  $n$  of a function  $f$  is

$$a_0 \cdot 1 + a_1 \sqrt{2} \cos(x) + b_1 \sqrt{2} \sin(x) + \dots$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cdot 1 dx \\ a_j &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sqrt{2} \cos(jx) dx \\ b_k &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cdot \sqrt{2} \sin(kx) dx. \end{aligned}$$

**Trigonometric Series:**

$$\frac{1}{2} A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_n \cos(nx) + B_n \sin(nx))$$

if in addition

$$A_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx$$

and

$$B_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) dx$$

then called *Fourier Series*.

Simplification: We could have started with the orthonormal sequence

$$e^{inx}, n \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ on } [0, 2\pi].$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e^{inx}, e^{imx} \rangle &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{inx} \overline{e^{imx}} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(n-m)x} dx \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{i(n-m)} e^{i(n-m)x} \right]_0^{2\pi} = 0 & \text{if } n \neq m \\ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} 1 dx = 1 & \text{if } n = m. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Give best approximation up to level  $n > 0$  of a function  $f$

$$c_{-n}e^{i(-n)x} + \dots + c_0 \cdot 1 + \dots + c_n e^{inx}$$

with corresponding series

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} c_n e^{inx}$$

where

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \overline{e^{inx}} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx.$$

Note:

$$\begin{aligned} c_n &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx - i \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) dx \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(A_n - iB_n) & \text{if } n > 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}A_0 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}(A_{|n|} + iB_{|n|}) & \text{if } n < 0. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

For  $n > 0$ , we have

$$c_n e^{inx} + c_{-n} e^{i(-n)x} = A_n \cos(nx) + B_n \sin(nx)$$

All the same terms as before!

Intervals:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{inx} &\text{ works on any interval of length } 2\pi. \\ e^{2\pi i n x / N} &\text{ works on any interval of length } L. \end{aligned}$$

Summary:

**Fourier Series:** If  $f$  is integrable on  $[a, b]$  of length of  $L$  then the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Fourier coefficient of  $f$  is defined by

$$\hat{f}(n) = \frac{1}{L} \int_a^b f(x) e^{-2\pi i n x / L} dx, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$$



and its Fourier series is given by

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n) e^{-2\pi i n x / L}.$$

Question: Does  $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n) e^{-2\pi i n x / L}$  converges to  $f(x)$ ?  
Let's first look at the following example.

← July 6, 2018

**Example 3.1.** Let  $f(x) = x$  on  $[0, 2\pi]$ . Then,

$$\hat{f}(n) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x e^{-inx} dx = \frac{i}{n}, \quad n \neq 0.$$

and

$$\hat{f}(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x dx = \pi.$$

**Fourier series**

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{i}{n} e^{inx} = \pi - 2 \left( \frac{1}{1} \sin(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(2x) + \dots \right)$$

$$\uparrow \frac{i}{n} e^{inx} + \frac{i}{-n} e^{-inx} = -\frac{2}{n} \sin(nx).$$

Yields  $\pi$  if  $x = 0$  or  $x = 2\pi$  while  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f(2\pi) = 2\pi$ .

Consider: [insert graph 1 vs 2 here ]:

Note: Fourier series is periodic on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

### 3.1 Domains

Consider  $[a, b]$  on periodic functions on  $\mathbb{R}$  in a circle such that  $f(x) = F(e^{ix})$  and  $x \in [0, 2\pi]$ . Hence, functions on the circle are periodic functions  $f(x)$  on  $[0, 2\pi]$  with  $f(0) = f(2\pi)$ .

### 3.2 Uniqueness

**Theorem.** Suppose  $f$  is integrable and bounded on an interval with  $\hat{f}(n) = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $f(x_0) = 0$  whenever  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ .

### 3.3 Partial Sums

Let

$$S_N(f)(x) := \sum_{n=-N}^N \hat{f}(n) e^{-2\pi i n x / L} \text{ on } [0, L].$$

Question: In what sense  $S_N f \rightarrow f$ .

**Theorem.** Suppose  $f$  is continuous on the circle and the Fourier series of  $f$  is absolutely convergent

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(n)| < \infty.$$

Then

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N(f)(x) = f(x)$$

uniformly in  $x$ .

*Proof.* Since

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(n)| < \infty$$

then

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n) e^{inx}$$

converges absolutely and in fact uniformly.

If

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(n) e^{inx}$$

then  $g$  must be continuous.

Since  $f - g$  is continuous and  $\widehat{f - g}(n) = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  we conclude by uniqueness theorem that  $f = g$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{g}(n) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g(x) e^{-inx} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(k) e^{ikx} \right) e^{-inx} dx \\ &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(k) \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(k-n)x} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Note that:

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(k-n)x} dx = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = n \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{g}(n) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(k) \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{i(k-n)x} dx \\ &= \hat{f}(n). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem.** Let  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2[0, 2\pi]$  and  $2\pi$  period. Then

$$\hat{f}(n) = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \text{ as } |n| \rightarrow \infty$$

and thus the Fourier series of  $f$  converges absolutely and uniformly to  $f$ .

Note:  $f(x) = \mathcal{O}(g(x))$  as  $x \rightarrow a$  means there exists a constant  $C$  such that

$$|f(x)| \leq C|g(x)| \text{ as } x \rightarrow a.$$

*Proof.* Since  $f''$  is continuous on  $[0, 2\pi]$ , it is bounded. Say

$$|f''(x)| \leq B \text{ for all } x \in (0, 2\pi].$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f}(n) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{in} \widehat{f'}(n) \text{ by int. by parts.} \end{aligned}$$

By iterating  $\widehat{f}(n) = \frac{1}{i^2 n^2} \widehat{f''}(n)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |\hat{f}(n)| &= \frac{1}{n^2} \left| \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f''(x) e^{-inx} dx \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n^2} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} B dx \right) = \frac{B}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Corollary.**  $\widehat{f'}(n) = in\hat{f}(n)$ .

### 3.4 Convolution

Given  $2\pi$  periodic integrable functions  $f$  and  $g$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Define their *convolution*  $f * g$  by

$$(f * g)(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(y) g(x - y) dy \quad x \in [-\pi, \pi].$$

Remarks: It has many good properties by most importantly

- $f * g = g * f$ .
- $\widehat{f * g} = \hat{f}(n) \hat{g}(n)$ .