Exercises. Fourier series Spring 2023

1. Let $f \in L^2[0,2\pi]$. Reorganise its Fourier series to show that

$$f(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(nt) + i \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(nt),$$

where,

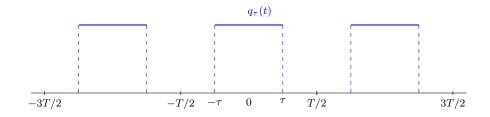
$$a_0 = \hat{f}(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) dt,$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt \, n \ge 1,$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt \, n \ge 1.$$

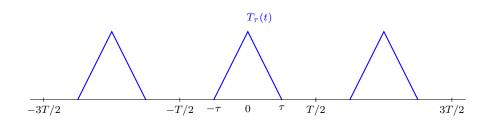
2. A square wave is a T-periodic function q_{τ} which in the interval [-T/2, T/2] has the form $q_{\tau} = (2\tau)\chi_{(-\tau,\tau)}$, where $0 < \tau < T/2$. Explicitly,

$$q_{\tau}(t) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} (2\tau) \chi_{(-\tau,\tau)}(t - Tk) .$$



Similarly, a triangular wave is a T-periodic function t_{τ} which in [-T/2, T/2] has the form $t_{\tau} = (\tau - |t|)\chi_{(-\tau,\tau)}$, again with $0 < \tau < T/2$. Explicitly,

$$T_{\tau}(t) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} (\tau - |t|) \chi_{(-\tau,\tau)}(t - Tk).$$



- (a) Find the Fourier series of $q_{\tau}(t)$.
- (b) Find the Fourier series of $T_{\tau}(t)$.
- (c) Compare the order of decay of the Fourier coefficients in both series. Can you explain the difference?
- 3. Find the Fourier series of the 2π -periodic function

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } 0 < t < \pi. \end{cases}$$

What does the Fourier series at t = 0 converge to?

- 4. (a) Obtain the Fourier series of the 2π -periodic function defined in $|t| < \pi$ as $f(t) = t \sin t$.
 - (b) Compute the value of the numerical series

(a)
$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 - 1}$$
, (b) $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2 - 1}$, (c) $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n^2 - 1)^2}$.

- 5. Let f be the 2L-periodic function in \mathbb{R} defined in (-L,L) as $f(t)=e^t$.
 - (a) Compute the Fourier series of f.
 - (b) Compute, for $a \in \mathbb{R}$, the value of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2+a^2}$.
- 6. Define the Bessel functions $J_n(x)$ through the Fourier series

$$e^{ix\sin(t)} = \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}} J_n(x)e^{int}.$$

Compute, for $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}|J_n(x)|^2.$$

- 7. Let $f \in \mathcal{C}^k[0,2\pi]$ with $f^{(j)}(0) = f^{(j)}(2\pi)$ for all $j \leq k$ (f is \mathcal{C}^k as a 2π -periodic function in \mathbb{R}). Prove that $\lim_{|n| \to \infty} |n|^k |\hat{f}(n)| = 0$.
- 8. The isoperimetric inequality. Let γ be a simple closed curve in \mathbb{R}^2 of length ℓ , and let A denote the area of the region enclosed by this curve. Then

$$A \le \frac{\ell^2}{4\pi},$$

with equality if and only if γ is a circle.

Notice that when γ is a circle of length ℓ then the radius is $\ell/(2\pi)$, and therefore the area i $\ell^2/(4\pi)$.

(a) See that it is enough to consider the case $\ell=2\pi$ and that γ is parametrised by the arc-length, so that the inequality to be proved has the form $A\leq\pi$.

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(b) Prove that

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\gamma} (x \, dy - y \, dx) = \frac{1}{2} \left| \int_{\gamma} (x \, dy - y \, dx) \right|.$$

(c) Let $\gamma(t)=(x(t),y(t)), t\in [0,2\pi]$ be the parametrisation given by the arc-length and let $x(t)=\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}a_ne^{int}, y(t)=\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}b_ne^{int}$ be the corresponding Fourier series. Prove that

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |n|^2 (|a_n|^2 + |b_n|^2) = 1.$$

(d) Prove that

$$A = \pi \left| \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} n(a_n \bar{b}_n - b_n \bar{a}_n) \right|$$

and deduce that $A \leq \pi$.

(e) Assume $A = \pi$. Prove that

$$x(t) = a_{-1}e^{-it} + a_0 + a_1e^{it}, \quad y(t) = b_{-1}e^{-it} + b_0 + b_1e^{it}$$

with $a_{-1} = \bar{a}_1, b_{-1} = \bar{b}_1$, and deduce that γ is a circle.

9. Given $x \in \mathbb{R}$ let [x] denote its integer part and $\langle x \rangle = x - [x] \in [0,1)$ its fractional part. Weyl's equidistribution theorem: if α is an irrational number, the sequence $\{\langle n\alpha \rangle\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ is equidistributed in [0,1), in the sense that for any interval $(a,b) \subset [0,1)$

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{\#\{1 \le n \le N : \langle n\alpha \rangle \in (a,b)\}}{N} = |(a,b)| = b - a.$$

- (a) Prove that if $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$ then there are finitely many distinct values $< n\alpha >$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and that if $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Q}$ then there are infinitely many.
- (b) Show that Weyl's equidistribution theorem is equivalent to the identities

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \chi_{(a,b)}(n\alpha) = \int_{0}^{1} \chi_{(a,b)}(t) dt,$$

where $(a,b) \subset [0,1)$ and $\chi_{(a,b)}$ indicates the 1-periodic function in \mathbb{R} such that in [0,1) has value 1 on (a,b) and o on $[0,1)\setminus (a,b)$.

(c) Prove that for any 1-periodic function $f \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})$ and $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Q}$,

$$\lim_{N\to\infty}\frac{1}{N}\sum_{n=1}^N f(n\alpha)=\int_0^1 f(t)\,dt.$$

(Hint: consider functions $f(t)=e^{2\pi i k t}, k\in\mathbb{Z}$.)

(d) Deduce Weyl's equidistribution theorem.

This result has an interpretation in terms of (discrete) dynamical systems. Let $\rho: \mathbb{T} \longrightarrow \mathbb{T}$ denote a rotation by an irrational angle α (i.e. $\rho(\theta) = \theta + 2\pi\alpha$, $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$). Given $f \in L^1(\mathbb{T})$, take the iterates $f^{(n)}(\theta) = f(\rho^{(n)}(\theta))$. Then the discrete dinamical system $\{f^{(n)}(\theta)\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ is *ergodic*:

 $\lim_{N\to\infty}\frac{1}{N}\sum_{n=1}^N f^{(n)}(\theta) \text{ exists for all } \theta \text{ and }$

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} f^{(n)}(\theta) = \int_{0}^{2\pi} f(\theta) \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}.$$