

Fourier

PHYS4840

Analysis, Transform, Series...

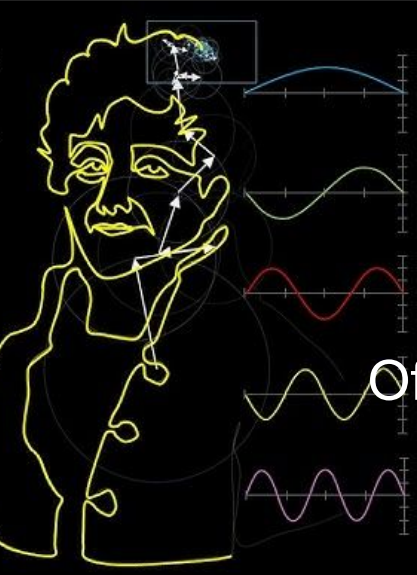
github.com/niallmiller/PHYS4840_Fourier

(This is currently the pinned repo on my page)

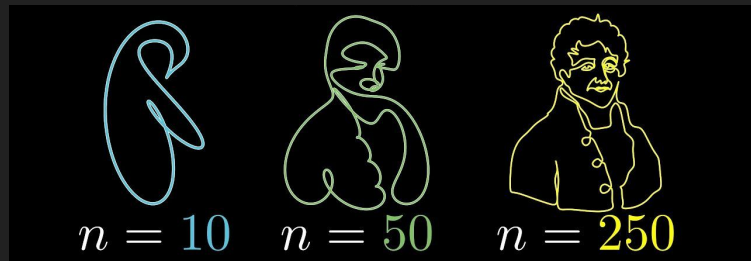
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Office hours - 2 hours before class or by request



Fourier

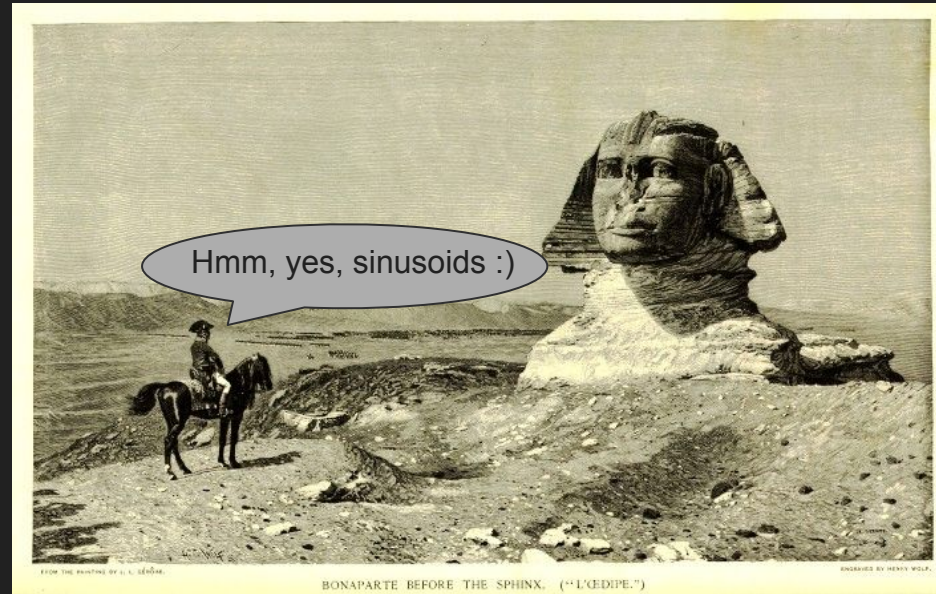


- Fourier series
Using lots of trig functions to make any other function
- Fourier transform
Using lots of trig to represent the frequency space of a complex signal
- Discrete Sine and Cosine transforms (jpegs)
- Fast Fourier Transforms
Using lots of trig to represent the frequency space of a complex signal
but on a computer and fast :)

And other things like reverse DFT, Gibbs, window functions...

Fourier

- What is Fourier analysis? (Signal analysis)
- Why is Fourier? (19th century scholars wanted to represent functions as sums of trig)
- Who is Fourier? (A French chap who was quite good with maths and also ran parts of Egypt for a bit and also Napoleon's m8)
- How is Fourier? (Dead)
- When is Fourier? (~ 1800s)



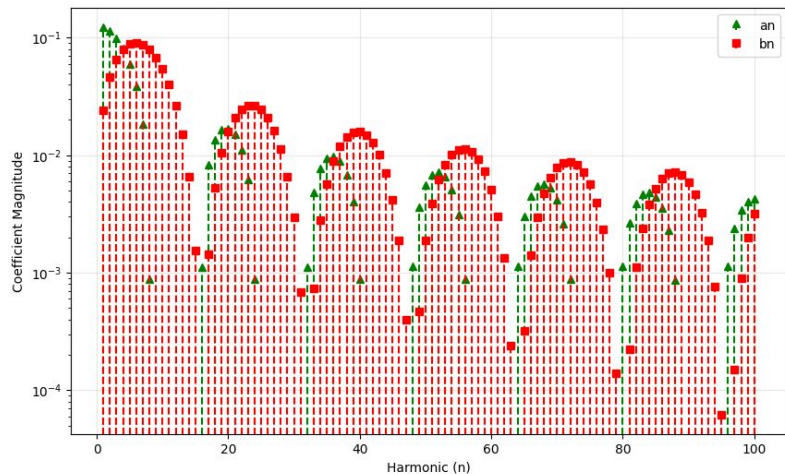
Fourier Series

- Any periodic function can be represented as a sum of sines and cosines
- So we can model complex signals with *lots* of simple components

$$F(x) = a_0/2 + a_1 \cos(x) + b_1 \sin(x) + a_2 \cos(2x) + b_2 \sin(2x) + a_3 \cos(3x) + b_3 \sin(3x) + \dots$$

a_n and *b_n* = Coefficients derived from :

Values for *a_n* and *b_n* fitting a pulse wave



$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x), dx$$

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

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

Fourier Series maths

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

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x), dx$$

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

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

Fourier Series code

- Any periodic function can be represented as a sum of sines and cosines
- So we can model complex signals with *lots* of simple components

```
# Compute Fourier series coefficients
a0, an, bn = fs.compute_coefficients(wave, TERMS)

# Calculate the Fourier approximation
y_approx = fs.fourier_series_approximation(x, a0, an, bn)
```

Fourier Series code

```
# Compute Fourier series coefficients  
a0, an, bn = fs.compute_coefficients(wave, TERMS)
```

```
a0 = compute_a0(func, period, num_points)  
an = np.zeros(n_terms)  
bn = np.zeros(n_terms)  
  
for n in range(1, n_terms + 1):  
    an[n-1] = compute_an(func, n, period, num_points)  
    bn[n-1] = compute_bn(func, n, period, num_points)  
  
return a0, an, bn
```


Fourier Series code

```
# Compute Fourier series coefficients  
a0, an, bn = fs.compute_coefficients(wave, TERMS)
```

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x), dx$$

```
def compute_a0(func, period=2*np.pi, num_points=1000):  
    x = np.linspace(0, period, num_points)  
    y = func(x)  
  
    result = np.trapz(y, x)  
    return (1 / period) * result
```


Fourier Series code

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

```
def compute_bn(func, n, period=2*np.pi, num_points=1000):  
    x = np.linspace(0, period, num_points)  
    y = func(x)  
  
    integrand = y * np.sin(2 * np.pi * n * x / period)  
    result = np.trapz(integrand, x)  
    return (2/period) * result
```

Fourier Series code

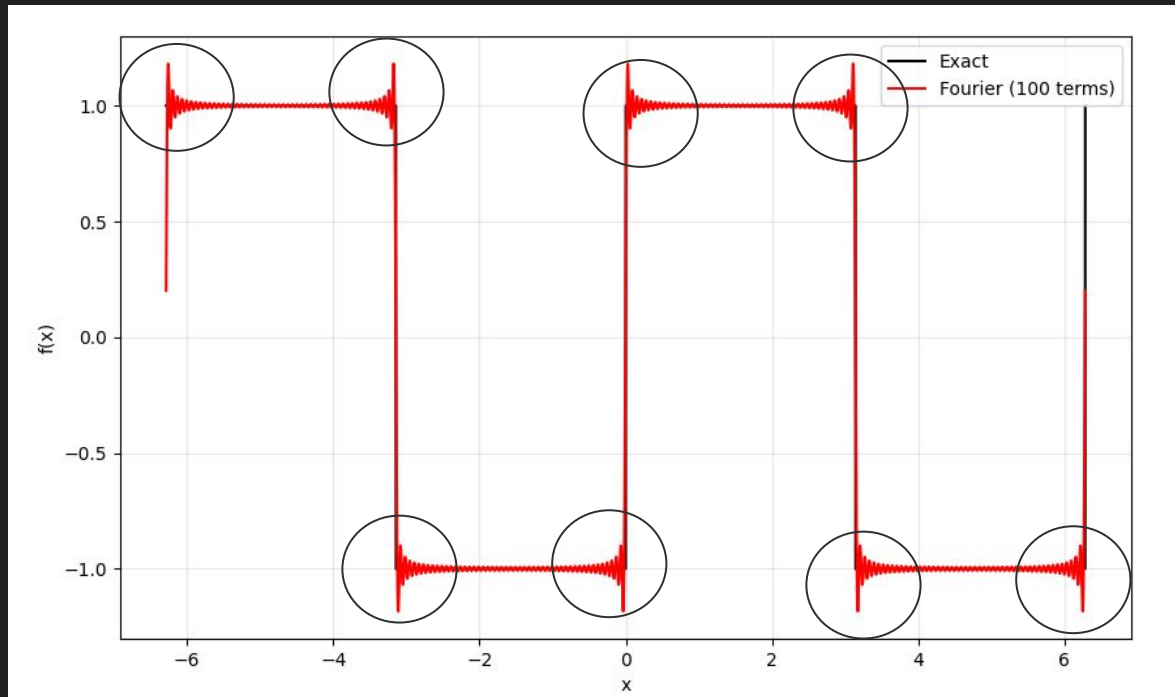
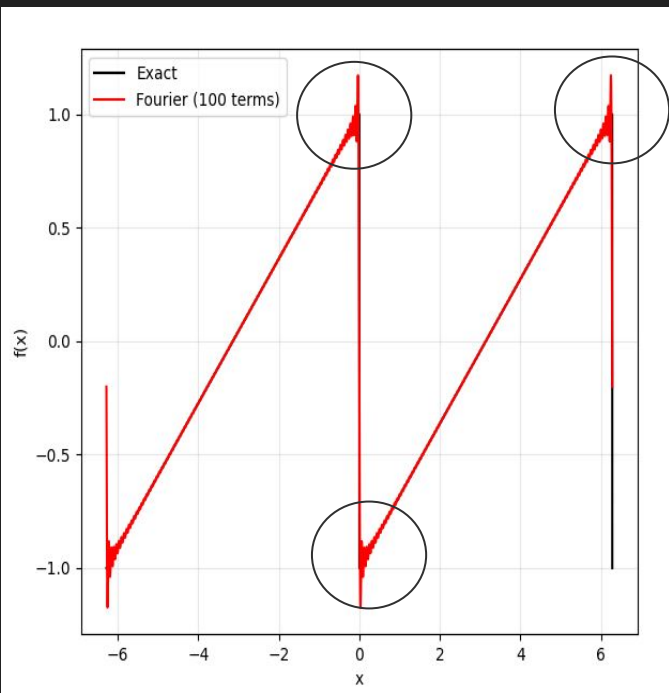
```
# Calculate the Fourier approximation  
y_approx = fs.fourier_series_approximation(x, a0, an, bn)
```

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

```
def fourier_series_approximation(x, a0, an, bn, period=2*np.pi):  
    result = np.ones_like(x) * a0  
  
    for n in range(1, len(an) + 1):  
        result += an[n-1] * np.cos(2 * np.pi * n * x / period)  
        result += bn[n-1] * np.sin(2 * np.pi * n * x / period)  
  
    return result
```

Gibbs

The Gibbs phenomenon is the overshoot (or undershoot) that happens when you approximate a function with a discontinuity (like a step) using a finite number of terms in its Fourier series.

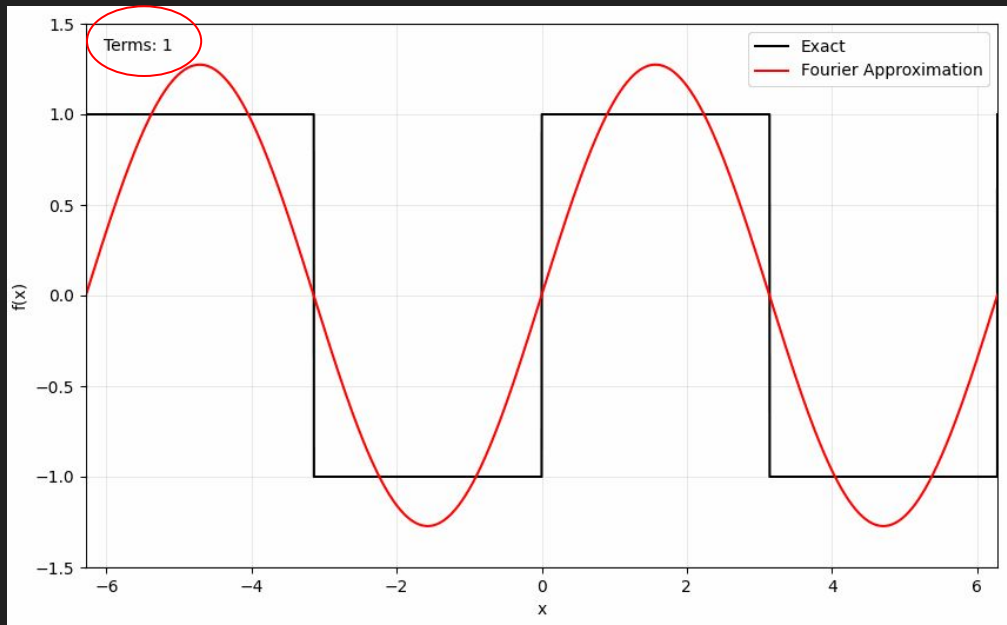


Gibbs

The oscillations don't go away as you add more terms — they just get narrower and more localized near the discontinuity.

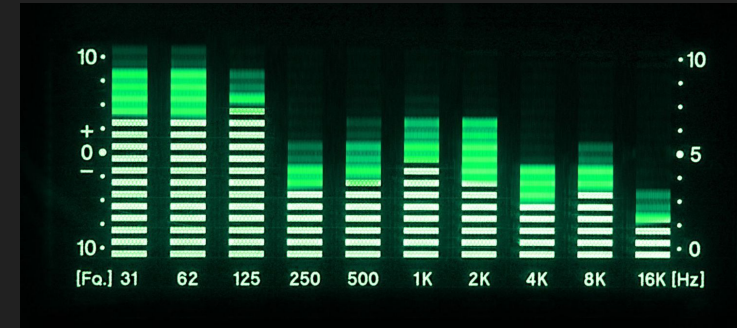
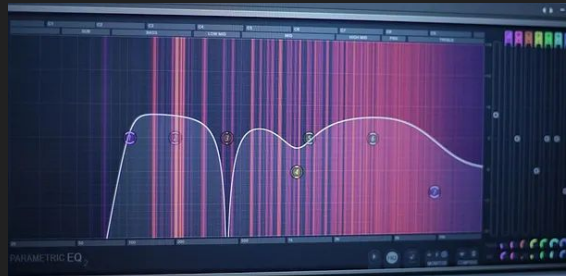
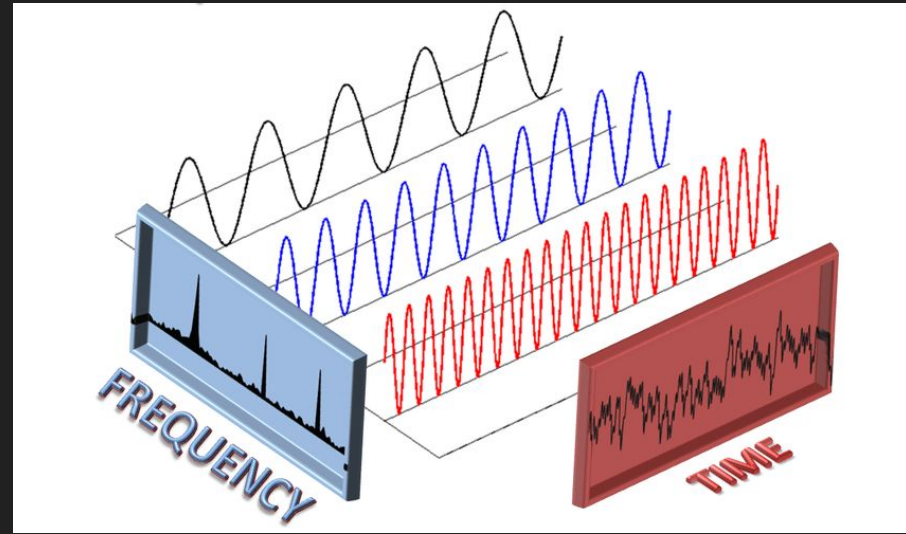
The max overshoot settles around 9% of the jump, no matter how many terms you add.

Even though the full Fourier series converges in the mean (L^2 norm), pointwise convergence fails at the jump



Fourier transform

- This is the one you know!
- All the audio visualisers work like this
- Has many applications
- Is reversible
- High compute complexity $O(N^2)$
- Sum of Fourier transforms = fourier transform of sum
- It is the frequency space representation of a signal



Fourier Series is nice if we know the periodicity

While the Fourier series applies to continuous, periodic functions

The Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) is designed for sampled, finite-length signals.

The DFT transforms a sequence of N complex numbers into another sequence of complex numbers representing frequency components.

For a sequence x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{N-1} , the DFT is defined as:

$$X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n e^{-i \frac{2\pi}{N} kn} \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

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In terms of sines and cosines:

$$X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \cos \left(\frac{2\pi kn}{N} \right) - i \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \sin \left(\frac{2\pi kn}{N} \right)$$

Intuition Behind the Fourier Transform

- Think of it as measuring how much of each frequency component exists in the signal
- For each frequency ω , we multiply the signal by $e^{(-i\omega t)}$ and integrate
- This is like computing a "correlation" between the signal and each frequency
- The result $F(\omega)$ gives amplitude and phase information at frequency ω

```
for k in range(N):  
    for n in range(N):  
        X[k] += x[n] * np.exp(-2j * np.pi * k * n / N)
```

Reversing the Fourier Transform

- Recall that Fourier transform is linear!
- We should be able to construct a signal from any FT spectra as long as our function is nicely behaved and we didn't undersample

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Reversing the Fourier Transform

- Recall that Fourier transform is linear!
- We should be able to construct a signal from any FT spectra as long as our function is nicely behaved and we didn't undersample

$$x_n = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X_k e^{i \frac{2\pi}{N} kn} \quad \text{for } n = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$$

Lets code!

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fs_demo.py