

MATH 213 - Lecture 22: Real Fourier series and convergence

Lecture goals: Know how to find the real Fourier series quickly and know the convergence properties of Fourier series. Get you to fill out the SCP survey.

τ periodic functions:

Definition 1: τ periodic functions

A f function defined on \mathbb{R} is τ periodic if for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$f(t) = f(t + \tau).$$

Generally, we pick the smallest value of τ such that the above holds.

Theorem 3 holds for τ periodic functions and we would integrate over one period.

⌋↑

If I ask you to find the Fourier series without telling you a domain for f and f is τ periodic then you first find out the τ period of f and do the computation over a period of f .

Fourier sin/cos series:

For a real valued function sometimes we found the Fourier series simplified to a sum of sine waves and sometimes it resulted in a sum of cos waves. We now elaborate on this:

Definition 2: Even and odd functions

A function f is even if

$$f(-t) = f(t).$$

A function f is odd if

$$f(-t) = -f(t)$$

Example 1

$\sin(x)$ is an odd function. $\cos(x)$ is an even function.

Theorem 1

For a real valued, τ periodic function $f \in L^2([-\tau/2, \tau/2])$:

- If f is an even then the Fourier series can be simplified to a sum of cos waves.
- If f is an odd then the Fourier series can be simplified to a sum of sin waves.

The sums above are called **Fourier cosine series**, **Fourier sine series**, and ~~Fourier series~~ respectively.

L^2

For completion we will write Theorem 3 for sin and cos series.

Theorem 2: Fourier Sine and Cosine Coefficients

If f is a real valued function that is in $L^2([-\tau/2, \tau/2])$ then

- If f is even then the Fourier cosine series for f is

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{\tau} t\right)$$

where

$$c_n = \begin{cases} \langle f(t), 1 \rangle & n = 0 \\ 2 \langle f(t), \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{\tau} t\right) \rangle & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

- If f is odd then the Fourier sine series for f is

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s_n \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{\tau} t\right)$$

where

$$s_n = 2 \left\langle f(t), \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{\tau} t\right) \right\rangle$$

Sketch of proof:

- Start with the coefficients in Theorem 3,
- write the complex exponential in terms of sin/cos waves,

- simplify the integrals by using the properties that
 - the integral of an odd function over $[-a, a]$ for any $a \in \mathbb{R}$ is 0,
 - that $g(-x) + g(x) = 0$ for an odd function g and
 - that $g(-x) + g(x) = 2g(x)$ for an even function g .

I strongly suggest not blindly memorizing this but to instead memorize Theorem 3 and then understand how it still simplifies if there are no sin or cos terms.

This is similar to the computations seen in the last lecture

Theorem 3

If f is real then we can decompose it into even and odd functions as follows:

$$f_{\text{even}}(t) = \frac{f(t) + f(-t)}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad f_{\text{odd}}(t) = \frac{f(t) - f(-t)}{2}.$$

$$f(t) = f_{\text{even}}(t) + f_{\text{odd}}(t).$$

Sketch of proof: Show that f_{even} is even, that f_{odd} is odd and that when summed we get f .

Theorem 4

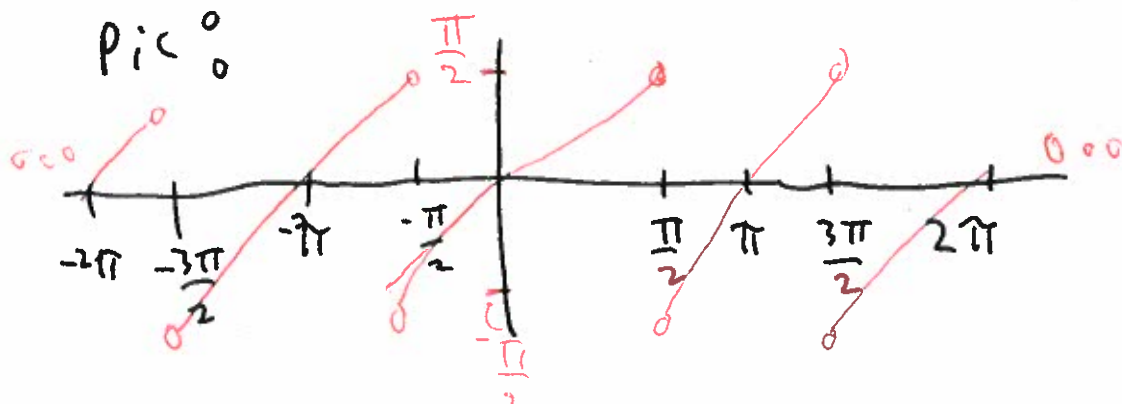
Every real valued function in $L^2([- \tau/2, \tau/2])$ admits a real valued Fourier series with some sin and/or cos terms. i.e. the complex form will always simplify to sin and cos terms.

Sketch of proof: Since f is real, it can be decomposed into an even and odd part. The even part gives us a cos series and the odd part gives us a sin series.

Example 2

Find the Fourier series for the π periodic version of

$$f(x) = x$$



$\boxed{\tau = \pi}$ & x is odd so sine series!!

$$f(x) \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s_n \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{\tau} x\right)$$

where

$$s_n = 2 \langle x, \sin 2nx \rangle$$

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

Math 149 go Bummer...

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

Note $\sin(\pi n) = \sin(-\pi n) = 0$

$\cos(\pi n) = \cos(-\pi n) = (-1)^n$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{2n \frac{\pi}{2} (-1)^n - 2n(-\frac{\pi}{2}) (-1)^n}{4n^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{-2\pi i}{\pi 4n^2} [(-1)^n + (-1)^n]$$

$$= \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$$

So

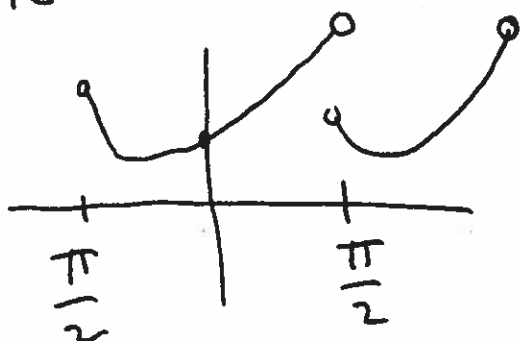
$$x \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin(2n\pi x)$$

Example 3

Find the Fourier series for the π periodic version of

$$f(x) = x^2 + x + 1$$

pic



$$T = \pi$$

$$f(x) = \underbrace{x^2 + 1}_{\text{even}} + \underbrace{x}_{\text{odd}}$$

$$x^2 \sim \underbrace{K_0}_{\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} x^2 dx} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{\pi} x\right)$$

$$c_n = 2 \left\langle x^2 + 1, \cos(2nx) \right\rangle$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} (x^2 + 1) \cos(2nx) dx$$

Integration by parts

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{(\cancel{2n^2(x^2+1)} - 1) \sin(2nx) + 2nx \cos(2nx)}{4n^3} \right]_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2}$$

$$\sin(n\pi) = \sin(-n\pi) = 0$$

$$\cos(\pm n\pi) = (-1)^n$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{2n}{4n^3} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} (-1)^n - -\frac{\pi}{2} (-1)^n \right) \right]$$

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

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

$$\phi \quad c_0 = 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} x^2 dx = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$$

$$\text{So } x^2 + 1 \sim \frac{\pi^2}{12} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} (\cos(2nx) + 1)$$

ϕ

$$f(x) \sim \underbrace{1 + \frac{\pi^2}{12} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos(2nx)}_{1+x^2} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin(2nx)}_X$$

Types of Convergence:

In MATH 119 you dealt with the convergence of series of real numbers. Things like

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 0.9^i.$$

In these cases there is a natural way to define convergence (though this is not actually unique).

With sums of functions like this

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} f_i(x),$$

there are many different ways to define convergence:

Definition 3: Some Types of Convergence

If $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n \dots$ is a sequence of functions defined on $[a, b]$ then we say that

- the sequence **converges in the $L^2([a, b])$ norm**, or **converges in the mean** or **converges almost everywhere**, to f if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\int_a^b |f_n(x) - f(x)|^2 dx} = 0$$

tldr; the “average error” goes to 0.

- the sequence **pointwise converges** to f , if for any $x \in [a, b]$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f_n(x) - f(x)) = 0$$

tldr; the error at each point goes to 0.

- The sequence **uniformly converges** to f if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{[a, b]} |f_n(x) - f(x)| = 0$$

If the maximum does not exist then we replace it with the smallest upper bound (called the sup).

tldr; the maximum error converges to 0.

Note that each of the things we take the limit of are just numbers!

Metanote, the first bullet point can be called by all those names only when we talk about functions on a finite interval (that is the case for this course).

Example 4

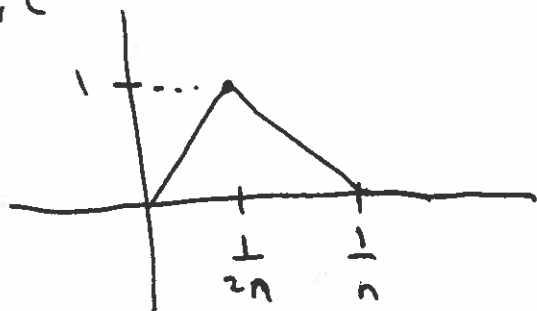
Determine if the sequence of functions defined by

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} 2nx & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2n} \\ 1 - 2nx & \frac{1}{2n} \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

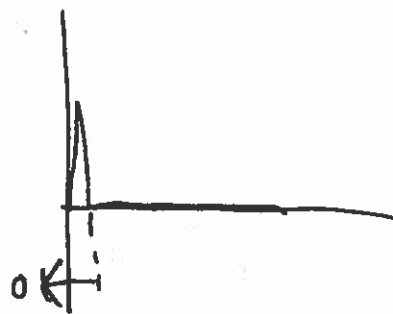
converges in the L^2 norm, pointwise, or uniformly.

If it converges, then what is the limiting function(s) in each case?

pic



as $n \rightarrow \infty$



So $f(x) = 0$.

P.W. Conv? Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ be given.

- If $x \leq 0$, $f_n(x) - f(x) = 0$ ✓

- If $x > 0$,
- if $x > 1$, $f_n(x) = f(x) = 0$ ✓

- if $0 < x < 1$, when $n = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{x} \right\rfloor + 1$

then $f_n(x) = 0$ so $f_n(x) - f(x) = 0$.

thus $f_n(x) \xrightarrow{p.w.} f(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} L^2 \text{ norm: } \sqrt{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f_n(x) - \underbrace{0}_{f(x)}|^2 dx} &= \sqrt{\int_0^{\frac{1}{2n}} 4n^2 x^2 dx + \int_{\frac{1}{2n}}^{\frac{1}{n}} (1-2nx)^2 dx} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{4n^2}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2n}\right)^3 + \left(x - \frac{4n}{2}x^2 + \frac{4n^2}{3}x^3\right) \Big|_{\frac{1}{2n}}^{\frac{1}{n}}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot n} + \left[\frac{1}{n} - \frac{4}{2n} + \frac{4}{3n} - \left(\frac{1}{2n} - \frac{1}{2n} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2n}\right)\right]} \\ &= \frac{A}{\sqrt{n}} \text{ for some } A \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

$\rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ ✓
thus $f_n(x) \xrightarrow{L^2} f(x)$.

Unif conv?

$$\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |f_n(x) - 0| = 1$$

$$\text{so } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n(x) - f(x)\|_{\infty} = 1 \neq 0$$

does not converge uniformly.

Convergence of Fourier series:

Before talking about the convergence of Fourier series we need to introduce some new definitions

Definition 4: Piecewise C^1

A function f is **Piecewise C^1 (PWC1)** on the interval $[a, b]$ if there is a finite partition $a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_k = b$ such that:

- f' exists on each interval (t_i, t_{i+1}) ,
- f' is continuous on each interval (t_i, t_{i+1}) ,
- f and f' are bounded on each interval (t_i, t_{i+1}) .

Example 5

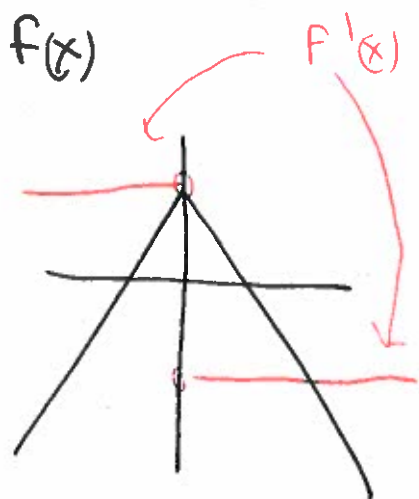
Determine if the following are continuous, piecewise continuous, differentiable, and/or piecewise C^1 .

• $f(x) = 1 - |x|$

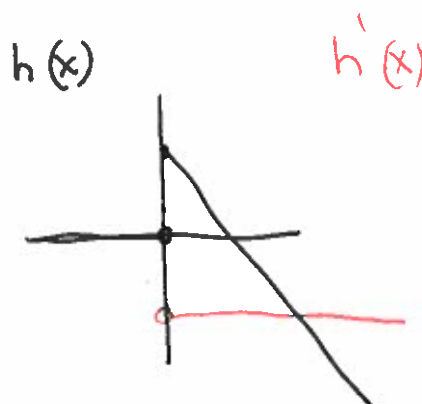
• $g(x) = 1 - x^{2/3}$

• $h(x) = u(x)(1 - |x|)$

• $\ell(x) = u(x)(1 - x^{2/3})$

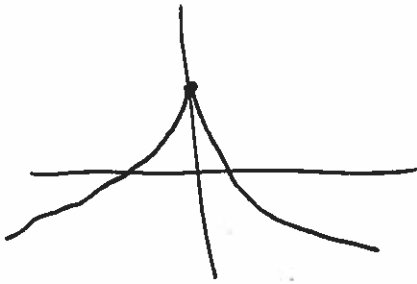


Continuous ✓
 PWC ✓
 not diff.
 Is PWC'



Not continuous
 PWC ✓
 not diff.
 Is PWC'

$g(x)$



Cont. \checkmark

PwC \checkmark

Not dif

Not PwC'

$$g'(x) = \begin{cases} -\frac{2}{3x^{1/3}} & x \neq 0 \\ \text{DNE} & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

$l(x)$



Not cont.

PwC \checkmark

Not dif

Not PwC'

Definition 5: Periodic Extension
 The periodic extension of a function f defined on $[a, b]$ is the $b - a$ periodic function f_p such that

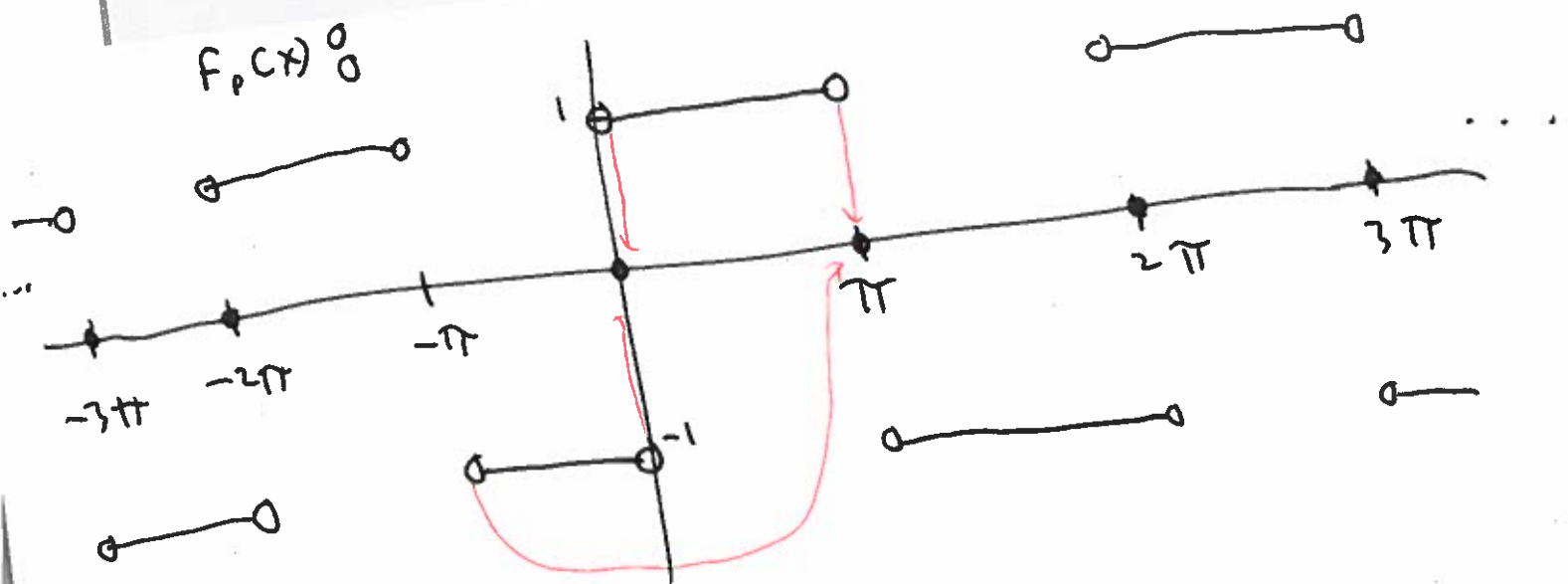
- $f_p(t) = f(t)$ for $t \in (a, b)$ where $f(t)$ is continuous.
- $f_p(t) = \frac{f(t^-) + f(t^+)}{2}$ for $t \in (a, b)$ where $f(t)$ is not continuous.
- $f_p(a) = \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} = f_p(b)$

Example 6

Draw the periodic extension of

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

$f_p(x)$



Theorem 5: Convergence of Fourier series

Let f_p be the periodic extension of a function $f \in L^2([-\tau/2, \tau/2])$.

- The Fourier series of f converges in the L^2 norm (also in the mean and almost everywhere) to f (and also f_p) on any finite subinterval of $[-\tau/2, \tau/2]$.
- If f_p is piecewise C^1 then the Fourier series of f converges pointwise to f_p for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.
- If f_p is piecewise C^1 and continuous then the Fourier series of f converges uniformly f_p on any finite interval of \mathbb{R} .

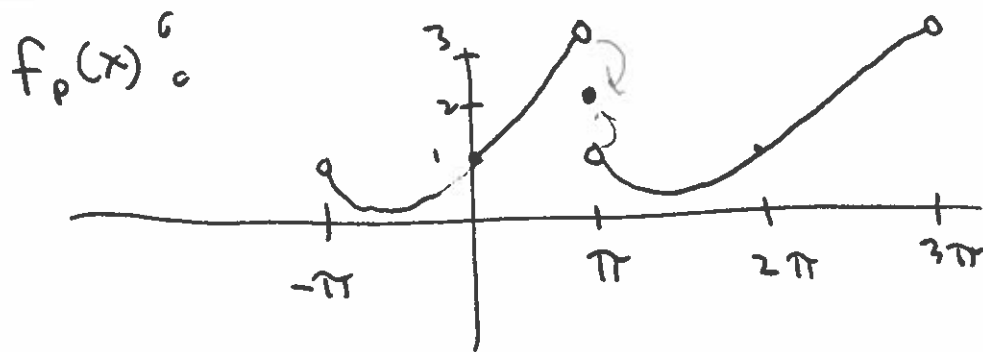
The proof is beyond the scope of this course.

Example 7

Draw the function that the Fourier series of f defined on $[-\pi, \pi]$

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2}{\pi^2} + \frac{x}{\pi} + 1$$

would converge to. Explain the type of convergence.



$f_p(x)$ is pwc' but not cont. thus

Fourier series

- conv L^2

- conv pw

- does not conv uniformly.

Definition 6: Gibbs Phenomenon

For a $L^2([a, b])$ function f with periodic extension f_p , if f_p is not continuous at some point t_0 then truncated Fourier series of f will have growing oscillations near the point t_0 . This is called **Gibbs Phenomenon**.

These oscillations do not appear in the infinite sum.