

# 7. FOURIER SERIES

**PERIODIC FUNCTION:** A function is called a periodic function, if  $f(x)$  is defined for all real  $x$  except possibly at some points, and if there is some positive number  $p$ , called a period of  $f(x)$ , such that,

$$f(x + p) = f(x), \forall x$$

The smallest positive period is often called the fundamental period.

## FOURIER SERIES:

Fourier series is representation of a non-sinusoidal periodic function sum of sinusoids.

Consider a periodic function  $f(x)$  with periodicity  $2l$ , the trigonometric Fourier series (TFS) of  $f(x)$  is given by,

$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) \right]$	Where, $a_n, b_n$ = Trigonometric Fourier series coefficient $a_0$ = Average value of $f(x)$ = Term independent of "x" = Constant term
$a_0 = \frac{1}{2l} \int_{<2l>} f(x) dx$	
$a_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_{<2l>} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) dx$	$b_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_{<2l>} f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) dx$

<b>EVEN FUNCTION:</b> A function is said to be an even function if $f(x) = f(-x)$	<b>ODD FUNCTION:</b> A function is said to be an even function if $f(x) = -f(-x)$
$h(x) = h(-x)$ , Rotation about Y-axis	$g(x) = -g(x)$ , Rotation about X-axis

SYMMETRY	CONDITION	$a_0$	$a_n$	$b_n$	PROPERTY
<b>EVEN</b>	$f(x) = f(-x)$	YES	YES	0	Cosine Term only
<b>ODD</b>	$f(x) = -f(-x)$	0	0	YES	Sine Term only

## HALF RANGE SERIES:

$f(x) = \text{neither even nor odd function}$

$f_e(x) = \text{even function obtained from } f(x) \text{ by rotation}$

$f_o(x) = \text{odd function obtained from } f(x) \text{ by rotation}$

- Half Range Cosine series of  $f(x)$  in range  $(0, l)$  is same as Even Fourier series of  $f_e(x)$ .
- Half Range Sine series of  $f(x)$  in range  $(0, l)$  is same as Odd Fourier series of  $f_o(x)$ .

**Note: Recall Integration by parts rule.**

## EXISTANCE OF FOURIER SERIES:

Functions that have Fourier series representation are those periodic functions which satisfy three Dirichlet conditions.

- 1)  $f(x)$  is absolutely integrable over one period. ( $f(x) = \tan x, 0 \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ , violates)
- 2)  $f(x)$  has an infinite number of maxima and minima over one period. ( $f(x) = \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{x}\right), 0 \leq x \leq 1$ , violates)
- 3)  $f(x)$  had an infinite number of finite discontinuities over one period.  
 $(f(x) = 0 \text{ for irrational number and } 1 \text{ for rational number over } (-\pi, \pi), \text{ violates})$

The periodic function equals to their Fourier series representation, except at some values of "x" where  $f(x)$  has finite discontinuity. At these values of "x", the Fourier series converges to the average value of the function values on either side of the discontinuity.