

FOURIER SERIES : § 10-3

**§ 10.3 #1** Let  $f(x) = x^3 + \sin(ax)$ . Prove  $f$  is an odd function.

Notice  $f(-x) = (-x)^3 + \sin(a(-x)) = -x^3 - \sin(ax) = -f(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
Thus  $f$  is an odd function.

**§ 10.3 #5** Let  $f(x) = e^{-x} \cos(3x)$ . Show  $f$  is neither even nor odd

Consider  $f(-x) = e^{-(-x)} \cos(3(-x)) = e^x \cos(3x) \neq \pm f(x)$  thus  
 $f$  is neither even nor odd. It may be worth mentioning  
that  $e^x = \cosh(x) + \sinh(x)$  decomposes  $e^x$  into its even  
and odd components. In fact, we can do the same for  $f(x)$ ,

$$f(x) = \underbrace{\cosh(x) \cos(3x)}_{\text{even}} - \underbrace{\sinh(x) \cos(3x)}_{\text{odd}}$$

You can check me on the algebra of these claims.

**§ 10.3 #7** Prove the following: (a.) for even  $f, g$  the product  $fg$  is even.

(b.) for odd func'ts  $f, g$  the product  $fg$  is even. (c.) if  $f$  even  
and  $g$  is odd func't then  $fg$  is an odd func't.

(a.) Let  $f, g$  be even func'ts. Consider,

$$\begin{aligned} (fg)(-x) &= f(-x)g(-x) && : \text{def}^k \text{ of product func't.} \\ &= f(x)g(x) && : f, g \text{ assumed even.} \\ &= (fg)(x) && : \text{def}^k \text{ of product func't.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $fg$  is even.

(b.) Let  $f, g$  be odd func'ts. Consider

$$\begin{aligned} (fg)(-x) &= f(-x)g(-x) && : \text{def}^k \text{ of product func't.} \\ &= (-f(x))(-g(x)) && : f, g \text{ assumed odd.} \\ &= (fg)(x) && : \text{def}^k \text{ of product func't.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $fg$  is even.

(c.) Let  $f$  be even and  $g$  odd. Consider,

$$\begin{aligned} (fg)(-x) &= f(-x)g(-x) && : \text{def}^k \text{ of product func't.} \\ &= f(x)(-g(x)) && : f \text{ even, } g \text{ odd} \\ &= -(fg)(x) && : \text{def}^k \text{ of product func't.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $fg$  is odd.

§10.3 #9 Find Fourier Series for  $f(x) = x$  on  $-\pi < x < \pi$

Clearly  $f$  is continuous on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  hence  $T = \pi$  and the Fourier Integrals (9) & (10) work out to (I skip details of IBP below)

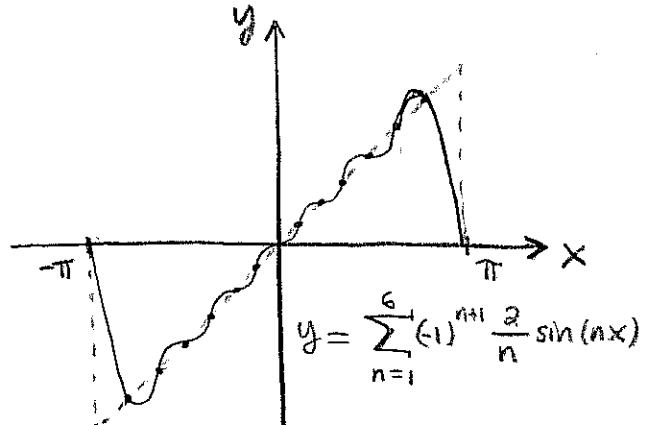
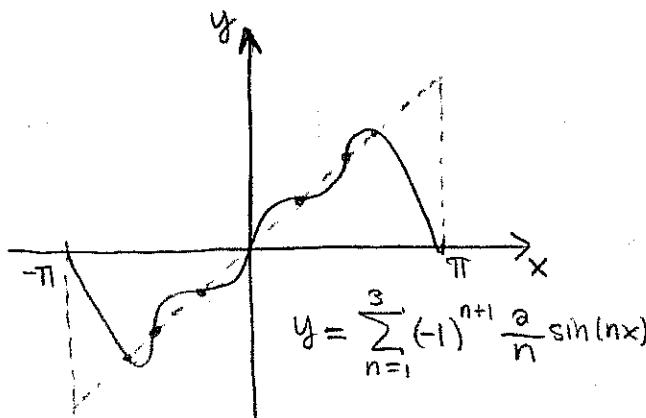
$$\begin{aligned} n \neq 0 \quad a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos(nx) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n} x \sin(nx) + \frac{1}{n} \cos(nx) \right) \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{n} \cos(n\pi) - \cos(-n\pi) \right) \\ &= 0. \quad (\text{well duh. } x \cos(nx) \text{ is an odd funct. of course this integral is going to be zero!}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin(nx) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( -\frac{1}{n} x \cos(nx) + \frac{1}{n} \sin(nx) \right) \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\ &= \frac{-1}{n\pi} (\pi \cos(n\pi) + \pi \cos(-n\pi)) \\ &= \frac{-2 \cos(n\pi)}{n} \quad ; \quad \begin{aligned} \cos(0) &= \cos(2\pi) = \cos(4\pi) = 1 \\ \cos(\pi) &= \cos(3\pi) = -1 \\ \text{thus } \cos(n\pi) &= (-1)^n \end{aligned} \\ &= \frac{2}{n} (-1)^{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

Finally  $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x dx = 0.$  (odd funct integral trick.)

Thus we find

$$\boxed{f(x) \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2}{n} \sin(nx) = 2 \sin(x) - \sin(2x) + \frac{2}{3} \sin(3x) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(4x) + \frac{2}{5} \sin(5x) - \frac{1}{3} \sin(6x) + \dots}$$



The more terms we take the closer to  $y = x$  for  $-\pi < x < \pi.$   
The graph will repeat if we look beyond  $-\pi < x < \pi.$  (Sawtooth)

§10.3 #11 Let  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & -a < x < 0 \\ x & 0 < x < a \end{cases}$  find Fourier expansion on  $-a < x < a$

We need to calculate  $a_n$  and  $b_n$ ,

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-a}^0 dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a x dx = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{4}{2}\right) = \underline{\underline{2}} = a_0.$$

Suppose  $n \geq 1$  in what follows,

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-a}^a f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-a}^0 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a x \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{a} \left( \frac{a}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \right) \Big|_{-a}^0 + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{ax}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{2}{n\pi}\right)^2 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] \Big|_0^a \\ &= \frac{1}{n\pi} (\sin(0) - \sin(-n\pi)) + \frac{2}{(n\pi)^2} [2\sin(n\pi) + \cos(n\pi) - 0 - \cos(0)] \\ &= \frac{2}{(n\pi)^2} [\cos(n\pi) - 1] \\ &= \underline{\underline{\frac{2}{n^2\pi^2} [(-1)^n - 1]}}. \end{aligned}$$

Next calculate  $b_n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-a}^a f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-a}^0 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a x \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{-1}{n\pi} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \Big|_{-a}^0 + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{-2}{n\pi} \times \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{2}{n\pi}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \right] \Big|_0^a \\ &= \frac{-1}{n\pi} (1 - \cos(n\pi)) + \frac{-1}{n\pi} (2\cos(n\pi)) + \frac{2}{n^2\pi^2} (\sin(n\pi) - \sin(0)) \\ &= \frac{1}{n\pi} [-\cos(n\pi) - 1] \\ &= \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{n\pi} [(-1)^{n+1} - 1]}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the Fourier expansion is

$$f(x) \sim 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{2}{n^2\pi^2} [(-1)^n - 1] \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) + \frac{1}{n\pi} [(-1)^{n+1} - 1] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \right\}$$

We use  $\sim$  rather than  $=$  to indicate the representation may only converge on a subset of  $\text{dom}(f)$ .

§ 10.3 #13 Find Fourier Expansion of  $f(x) = x^2$  on  $-1 < x < 1$

Since  $f$  is an even function we will find  $b_n = 0$  for all  $n \geq 1$ .

Consider  $n = 0$ ,

$$a_0 = \int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx = \frac{1}{3}x^3 \Big|_{-1}^1 = \frac{2}{3}.$$

Let  $n \geq 1$  and calculate,

$$a_n = \int_{-1}^1 x^2 \cos(n\pi x) dx$$

Pause: let's integrate. Use integration by parts, twice,

$$\begin{aligned} \int u \underbrace{\cos(n\pi x)}_{dV} dx &= \frac{x^2}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) - \int \frac{1}{n\pi} \underbrace{\sin(n\pi x)}_{dV} \underbrace{2x dx}_{dU} \\ &= \frac{x^2 \sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} - \frac{2x}{n\pi} \left( -\frac{\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} \right) + \int \frac{-\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} \left( \frac{2}{n\pi} dx \right) \\ &= \frac{x^2 \sin(n\pi x)}{n\pi} + \frac{2x}{n^2\pi^2} \cos(n\pi x) - \frac{2}{(n\pi)^3} \sin(n\pi x) + C \end{aligned}$$

Returning to the calculation of  $a_n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \left\{ \left( \frac{x^2}{n\pi} - \frac{2}{(n\pi)^3} \right) \sin(n\pi x) + \frac{2x}{(n\pi)^2} \cos(n\pi x) \right\} \Big|_{-1}^1 \\ &= \frac{2}{(n\pi)^2} \cos(n\pi) + \frac{2}{(n\pi)^2} \cos(-n\pi) \\ &= \frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} (-1)^n. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$f(x) \sim \frac{1}{3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} (-1)^n \cos(n\pi x)$$

§ 10.3 #19 and #21 We are asked to give the function to which the Fourier series converges for #11 and #13

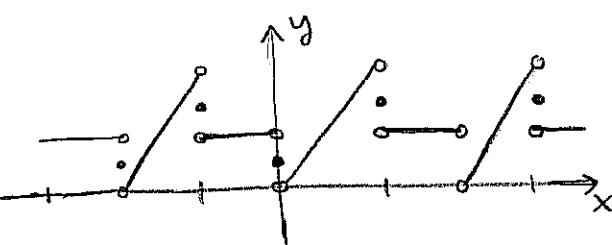
$$\#11 \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & -2 < x < 0 \\ x & 0 < x < 2 \end{cases}$$

has Fourier Series which converges to the function  $g(x)$  with period  $T=4$  and  $g(x) = f(x)$  for  $-2 < x < 2$ . The endpts / discontin. pts of  $x=0$  and  $x=\pm 2$  are given by the average of the func. to the left & right of the discontinuity. Thus

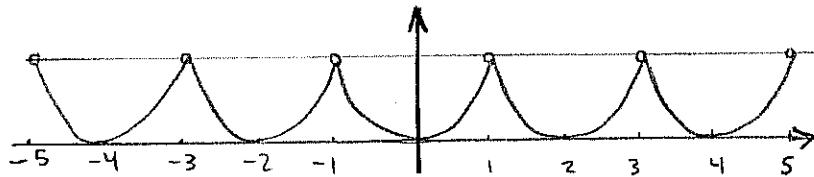
$$g(0) = \frac{1}{2}(1+0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$g(2) = \frac{1}{2}(1+2) = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$g(-2) = \frac{1}{2}(1+2) = \frac{3}{2}$$



$$\#13 \quad f(x) = x^2 \text{ for } -1 < x < 1$$



Notice the points of possible discontinuity  $x = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 5, \dots$  match up from left and right thus  $g(x) = x^2$  for  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$  and  $g$  has period 2.

Remark: the Fourier Expansion's averaging of the left/right values near a point of discontinuity is not terribly important to most questions. Often we can ignore a set of points of "measure zero" especially where an integral is involved.

§10.3 #29 / In §8.8 it was shown that the Legendre polynomials  $P_n(x)$  are orthogonal on  $[-1, 1]$  with respect to weight function  $w(x) = 1$ . Given that

$$P_0(x) = 1$$

$$P_1(x) = x$$

$$P_2(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{2}$$

find the  $1^{\text{st}}$  3 coefficients in the Legendre polynomial expansion

$$f(x) = a_0 P_0(x) + a_1 P_1(x) + a_2 P_2(x) + \dots$$

$$\text{for the function } f(x) = \begin{cases} -1 & -1 < x < 0 \\ 1 & 0 < x < 1 \end{cases}$$

Here "orthonormal"  $P_m$  means  $\int_{-1}^1 P_m P_n dx = \delta_{mn} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m=n \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \end{cases}$

We can use integration to pick off components. It's a generalization of the dot-product idea from calc. III,

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_m(x) [a_0 P_0(x) + a_1 P_1(x) + \dots] dx = a_0 \delta_{m0} + a_1 \delta_{m1} + a_2 \delta_{m2} + \dots$$

We only have "orthogonal", this means  $\|P_m\| \neq 1$  necessarily,

$$\|P_0\|^2 a_0 = \int_{-1}^1 P_0(x) f(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx = -1 + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{a_0 = 0}.$$

Likewise,

$$\|P_1\|^2 a_1 = \int_{-1}^1 P_1(x) f(x) dx = \int_{-1}^0 -x dx + \int_0^1 x dx = \left. -\frac{x^2}{2} \right|_{-1}^0 + \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_0^1 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \underline{1 = a_1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_2\|^2 a_2 &= \int_{-1}^1 P_2(x) f(x) dx = \int_{-1}^0 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}x^2 \right) dx + \int_0^1 \left( \frac{3}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) dx \\ &= \left. \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{2}x^3 \right) \right|_{-1}^0 + \left. \left( \frac{1}{2}x^3 - \frac{x}{2} \right) \right|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{a_2 = 0}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Calculate } \|P_2\|^2 = \int_{-1}^1 P_2(x) P_2(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx = \left. \frac{x^3}{3} \right|_{-1}^1 = \frac{2}{3}.$$

Consequently  $a_1 = \frac{2}{3}$  and so

$$\underline{f(x) \cong \frac{2}{3}x + \dots}$$

Remark: I'm using discussion in text on pgs. 624-625. Orthogonal polynomials are natural extensions of Fourier Idea.