

# Ch 1 Fourier Series

Def = (1) Trigonometric series (三角级数)

on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  is a series of functions of the form

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$$

(where  $a_n, b_n \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$$

(2) If  $b_n = 0, \forall n$ , it is called a cosine series

"  $a_n = 0, \forall n \geq 1$ , " " " sine series

## Easy facts

(1) If  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n| < \infty, \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |b_n| < \infty$ ,

then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$

is uniformly and absolutely convergent.

In particular,  $|a_n|, |b_n| \leq \frac{C}{n^s}, s > 1$  (for some  $C > 0$ ),

this is the case! (Pf: By M-test &  $|\cos nx| \leq 1, |\sin nx| \leq 1$ )

$$(2) \quad \phi(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$$

is a continuous function on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  provided  $\sum |a_n| < \infty$   
 $\sum |b_n| < \infty$ .

(3)  $\phi(x)$  defined in (2) is  $2\pi$ -periodic.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pf } \phi(x+2\pi) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^n (a_k \cos(k(x+2\pi)) + b_k \sin(k(x+2\pi))) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^n (a_k \cos kx + b_k \sin kx) \\ &= \phi(x) \quad \times \end{aligned}$$

Def: Let  $f$  be a  $2\pi$ -periodic function on  $\mathbb{R}$  which is Riemann integrable on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Then the

Fourier Series (or Fourier expansion) of  $f$

is the trigonometric series

$$a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$$

with

Fourier coefficients of  $f$

}

$$\begin{cases} a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(y) dy \\ a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(y) \cos ny dy \\ b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(y) \sin ny dy \end{cases}$$

Notes (1)  $a_0 =$  average of  $f$  over  $[-\pi, \pi]$

(2) Fourier series depends on the global information of  $f$  on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

(3)  $f_1 \equiv f_2$  almost everywhere on  $[-\pi, \pi]$

$\Rightarrow f_1$  &  $f_2$  have the same Fourier Series.

(4) Fourier series of  $f$  depends only on  $f|_{(-\pi, \pi)}$ , independent of the values of  $f$  on the end points.

Motivation of the definition of Fourier Series :

"If"  $f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx), \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

( & assume uniformly convergent. )

Then

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx$$
$$= a_0 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mx dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \cos mx dx + b_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \cos mx dx \right)$$

It is easy to calculate

$$\bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mx dx = \begin{cases} 2\pi & \text{if } m=0 \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \cos mx dx = \begin{cases} \pi & , \text{ if } m=n \\ 0 & , \text{ if } m \neq n \end{cases}$$

$$\bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \cos mx dx = 0, \quad \forall n, m \geq 1$$

Hence if  $m=0$ ,  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{L.H.S.} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx \\ \text{R.H.S.} = 2\pi a_0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx$

if  $m > 0$ , then  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{L.H.S.} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx \\ \text{R.H.S.} = a_m \cdot \pi \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a_m = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx$

Similarly,

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin mx dx = a_0 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \sin mx dx + b_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \sin mx dx \right)$$

Using  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx dx = 0, \quad \forall m$

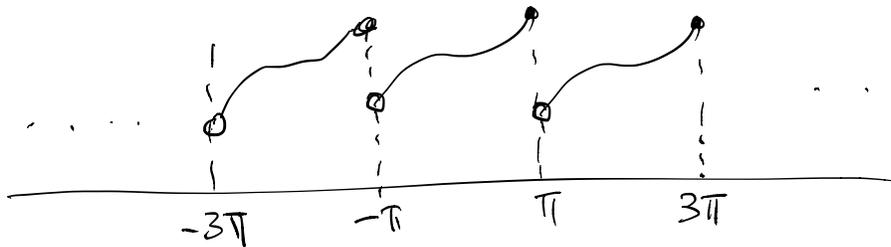
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \sin mx dx = \begin{cases} \pi & \text{if } m=n \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \end{cases}$$

Hence 
$$b_m = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin mx dx$$

Note: For any Riemann integrable function  $f$  on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ , we can define all the  $a_0, a_n, b_n, n \geq 1$  as in the defn.

& hence a Fourier series,

On the other hand, we can restrict a  $f$  to  $(-\pi, \pi]$  and extend periodically to a  $2\pi$ -periodic function  $\tilde{f}$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ :



And according to the defn. of Fourier coefficients,

$f$  &  $\tilde{f}$  have the same Fourier Series!

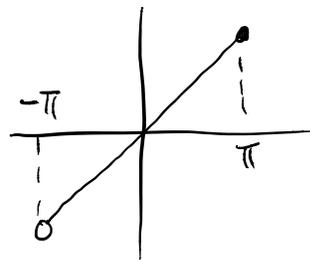
So we will not distinguish  $f$  &  $\tilde{f}$ !

Notation We use

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

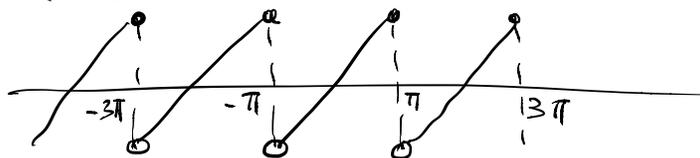
to denote if the trigonometric series on the RHS is the Fourier Series of  $f$ .

eg. 1  $f_1(x) = x$  restricted to  $(-\pi, \pi]$



Extension to  $2\pi$ -periodic function

$\tilde{f}_1$  on  $\mathbb{R}$



$$\tilde{f}_1(-\pi) = \pi \neq -\pi$$

$\tilde{f}_1 = \text{odd function}$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x dx = 0$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx dx = 0$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx dx = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2}{n} \quad (\text{Check!})$$

$$\therefore f_1(x) = x \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2}{n} \sin nx$$

(or  $\hat{f}_1(x)$ )

$$= 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin nx \quad \text{is a sine series}$$

( $\because f_1$  is odd)

Notes: (1) For  $x = \pm\pi$ , Fourier series  $\Big|_{\pm\pi} = 0$

But  $f_1(\pm\pi) = \pm\pi$   
 $\hat{f}_1(\pm\pi) = \pi$  }  $\neq$  Fourier series  $\Big|_{\pm\pi}$

(2) Convergence is not clear (for  $x \neq \pm\pi$ )

as the terms decay like  $\frac{1}{n}$  &  $\sum \frac{1}{n}$  doesn't converge.

Notation: "Big O" & "small o"

let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence, then

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(i)} \\ \text{(ii)} \end{array} \right\} x_n = O(n^s) \Leftrightarrow |x_n| \leq Cn^s \quad \text{for some const. } C > 0$$

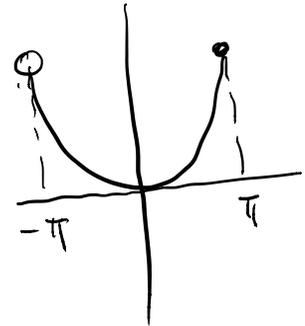
(as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ )

$$(ii) \quad x_n = o(n^s) \Leftrightarrow \frac{|x_n|}{n^s} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

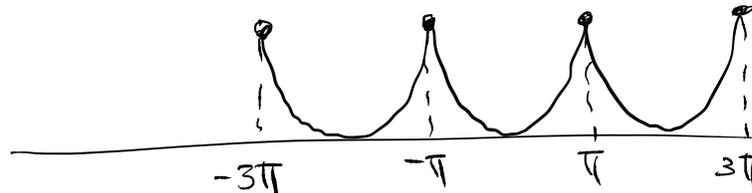
(egs): (i)  $x_n = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin nx = O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \left(|x_n| \leq \frac{2}{n}\right)$

(ii)  $x_n = \log n = o(n) \left(\frac{\log n}{n} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty\right)$

Ex 1.2  $f_2(x) = x^2$  restricted to  $(-\pi, \pi]$



Extension to a  $2\pi$ -periodic function  $\tilde{f}_2$  on  $\mathbb{R}$



$\tilde{f}_2$  is continuous (so  $f_2(-\pi) = f_2(\pi)$ )

$\tilde{f}_2$  is an even function

It is an easy exercise of integration to find that

$$f_2(x) = x^2 \sim \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^2} \cos nx \quad (\text{Fx!})$$

One sees that

$$a_n = O\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \Rightarrow \sum |a_n| < \infty$$

