

# Ch 1 Fourier Series

Def = (1) Trigonometric Series (三角級數)

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

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx) \quad (\text{where } a_n, b_n \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx) \quad (b_0 = 0)$$

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

If  $a_n = 0, \forall n$ , it is called a sine series

## Easy facts

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

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

is uniformly and absolutely convergent

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

then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n|, \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |b_n| < \infty$  and hence

$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$  is uniformly and absolutely convergent

(Pf: By M-test &  $|\cos nx|, |\sin nx| \leq 1$ )

(2) In this case,

$\phi(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$  is continuous on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

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

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

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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

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

Fourier Coefficients  
of  $f$

### 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.

(  $f_1 \equiv f_2$  "almost everywhere" means  $\text{meas}(\{f_1 \neq f_2\}) = 0$ ,  
i.e.  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists$  open intervals  $I_n, n=1, 2, \dots$  s.t.  $\{f_1 \neq f_2\} \subset \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |I_n| < \varepsilon$  )

## Motivation of the definition of Fourier Series

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

& "assume" uniformly convergent.

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

It is easy to calculate

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mx dx = \begin{cases} 2\pi & \text{if } m=0 \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq 0 \end{cases} \\ \bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \cos mx dx = \begin{cases} \pi & , \text{ if } m=n \\ 0 & , \text{ if } m \neq n \end{cases} \\ \bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \cos mx dx = 0, \quad \forall n, m \geq 1 \end{array} \right\} \text{--- } (*)_3$$

Hence if  $m=0$ ,

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{LHS} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx \\ \text{RHS} = 2\pi a_0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx$$

If  $m \neq 0$ ,

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{LHS} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx \\ \text{RHS} = a_m \pi \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a_m = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos mx dx$$

Similarly, consider

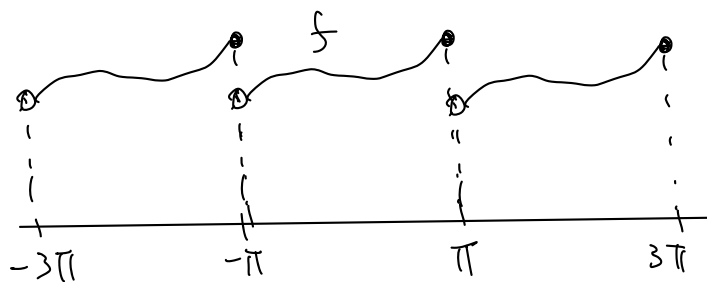
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin mx dx = a_0 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \sin mx dx + b_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \sin mx dx)$$

and using  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx dx = 0 \quad \forall m \\ \bullet \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx \sin mx dx = \begin{cases} \pi & \text{if } m=n \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \end{cases} \end{array} \right\} \text{ (2 using } (*)_3)$

$$\Rightarrow b_m = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin mx dx, \quad \forall m \geq 1.$$

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, and hence the Fourier series.

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



And according to the defn. of Fourier coefficients,

$f$  &  $\hat{f}$  have the same Fourier series!

So we will not distinguish  $f$  &  $\hat{f}$ .

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

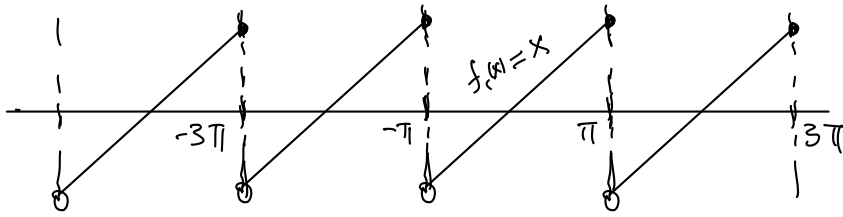
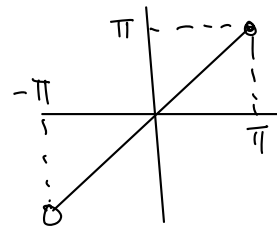
means "the trigonometric series on the RHS is the Fourier series of  $f$ ".

(does not indicate the series converges to  $f$  in any sense.)

eg 1.1  $f_1(x) = x$  restricted to  $(-\pi, \pi]$

Extension to  $2\pi$ -periodic function

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



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \, dx = 0 \\ a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx = 0 \\ b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2}{n} \quad (\text{check!}) \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \hat{f}_1(x) = x &\sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2}{n} \sin nx \\ &= 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin nx \quad (\text{is a sine series}) \\ &\quad (\because \hat{f}_1 \text{ is odd}) \end{aligned}$$