

HW #5 due today (Laplace's eqn.)

Quiz #4 due tomorrow (Canvas)

HW #6 due next Tuesday (March 23)

## Fourier series

MATH 3150 Lecture 06

March 16, 2021

Haberman 5th edition: Section 3.1 - 3.3

# Infinite series

When solving PDEs, we have seen infinite sums of the form

$$a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

In the heat equation: attempt to represent initial data using eigenfunctions.

Recall:  $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \exp(-\lambda_n t) \Phi_n(x)$        $\Phi_n$ : eigenfunctions

initial data:  $u(x, 0) = f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \Phi_n(x)$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \underbrace{\cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)}_{\text{eigenfunctions associated to boundary conditions } \phi'(0) = \phi'(L) = 0}$$

We chose  $a_n$  based on orthogonality.

Q: does this actually reproduce  $f$ ?

eigenfunctions associated to boundary conditions  $\phi'(0) = \phi'(L) = 0$

## Infinite series

When solving PDEs, we have seen infinite sums of the form

$$a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

In the heat equation: attempt to represent initial data using eigenfunctions.

This lecture: can we accurately represent functions using these types of sums?

# Fourier series

Let  $f(x)$  be a given function for  $x \in [-L, L]$ .

## Definition

The Fourier series of  $f$  is defined as,

$$FS := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right),$$

where the Fourier coefficients are given by

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx,$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx,$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx,$$

*eigenfunctions associated  
to periodic BC's.*

$$\phi(0) = \phi(L)$$

$$n \geq 1 \quad \phi'(0) = \phi'(L).$$

$$n \geq 1.$$

where do the formulas for the Fourier coefficients come from?

Orthogonality.

Note:  $\int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \stackrel{?}{=} 2 \int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$

since cosine  
is an even  
function

formula sheet

$$\int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 2 \cdot \frac{L}{2}, & n=m \neq 0 \\ 2 \cdot L, & n=m=0 \\ 2 \cdot 0, & n \neq m \end{cases} \quad (\text{this is another orthogonality property.})$$

Also:  $\int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx \stackrel{?}{=} 0$

sine is an odd fcn.  
cosine is an even fcn.

Fourier coefficients:

$$f(x) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

multiply by  $\cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right)$ , integrate from  $-L$  to  $L$

$$\int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 2 \cdot L \cdot a_m, & \text{if } m=0 \\ L \cdot a_m, & \text{if } m>0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow a_0 &= \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{0 \cdot \pi x}{L}\right) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx \\
 a_m &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx
 \end{aligned}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} a_0 \\ a_m \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Fourier} \\ \text{coeff.} \\ \text{formulas.} \end{array}$$

A similar computation shows:

$$\int_{-L}^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} L, & \text{if } n=m \\ 0, & \text{if } n \neq m \end{cases}$$

$$b_m = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

# Fourier series

Let  $f(x)$  be a given function for  $x \in [-L, L]$ .

## Definition

The Fourier series of  $f$  is defined as,

$$f(x) \stackrel{?}{=} FS := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right),$$

where the Fourier coefficients are given by

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx,$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \quad n \geq 1$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \quad n \geq 1.$$

Given  $f$ , its Fourier series is, in principle, always computable.

Main question for us: does  $FS = f$ ? Is  $FS \approx f$  true?

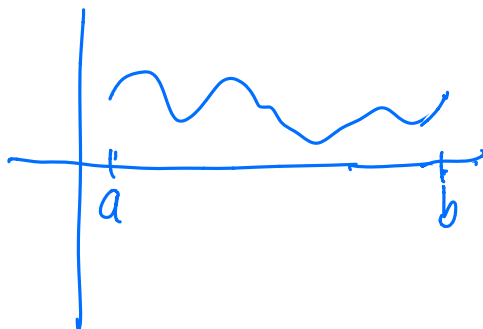


# Smooth functions and discontinuities

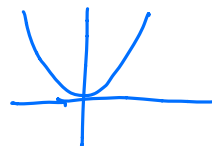
We'll use some terminology to classify types of functions.

- A function  $f$  is smooth on the interval  $[a, b]$  if  $f$  and  $f'$  are both continuous for every  $x$  in  $[a, b]$ .

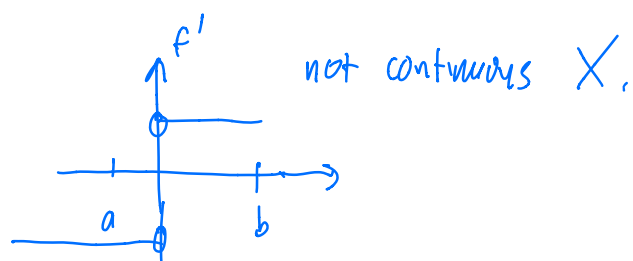
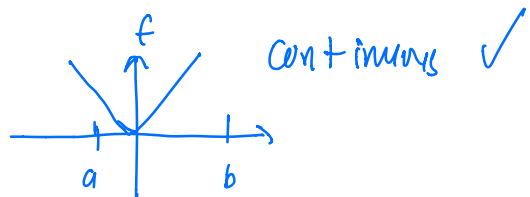
smooth functions :



$f(x) = x^2$  : smooth for every  $[a, b]$



$f(x) = |x|$  : not smooth if 0 lies in  $[a, b]$



# Smooth functions and discontinuities

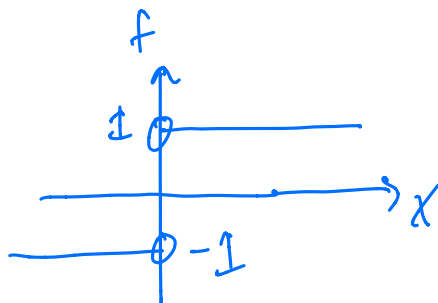
We'll use some terminology to classify types of functions.

- A function  $f$  is smooth on the interval  $[a, b]$  if  $f$  and  $f'$  are both continuous for every  $x$  in  $[a, b]$ .
- A function  $f$  has jump discontinuity at  $x = x_0$  if

$$f(x_0^-) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^+} f(x) = f(x_0^+).$$

↑  
approach  
from left

↑  
approach  
from right.



$$f(0^-) = -1$$

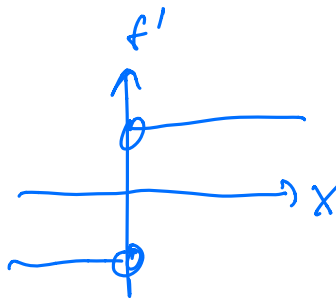
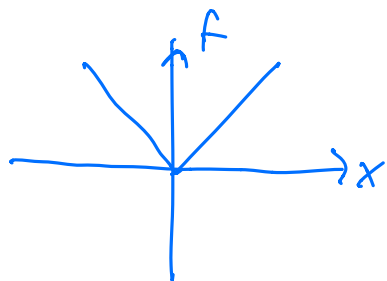
$$f(0^+) = +1$$

(jump discontinuity)

Some more terminology to characterize functions:

- A function  $f$  is piecewise smooth on the interval  $[a, b]$  if the interval can be broken up into several closed subintervals on each of which  $f$  is smooth.

$f(x) = |x|$  is piecewise smooth on  $[-1, 1]$ .



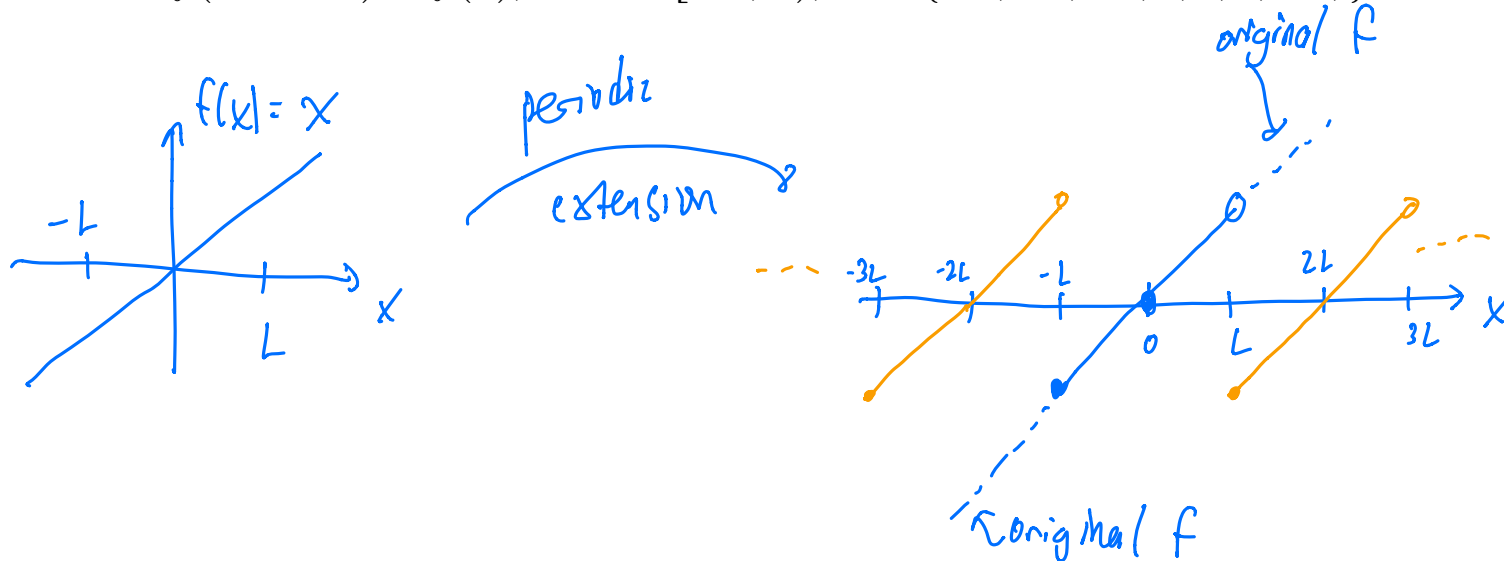
both are smooth on  $[-1, 0]$  and  $[0, 1]$ .

# Piecewise smooth functions and periodic extensions

Some more terminology to characterize functions:

- A function  $f$  is piecewise smooth on the interval  $[a, b]$  if the interval can be broken up into several closed subintervals on each of which  $f$  is smooth.
- A function  $f$  defined on  $[-L, L)$  has a periodic extension on the entire real line defined by

$$f(x + 2nL) = f(x), \quad x \in [-L, L), \quad n \in \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}.$$



# Convergence of Fourier series

Given  $f$ , the Fourier series is

$$FS := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right).$$

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$$FS := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right).$$

We seek to understand the “convergence” of Fourier series. Rigorously, this means that we *truncate* the infinite sums to finite ones,

$$\sum_{n=0}^N a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^N b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right),$$

and try to understand what happens as  $N \uparrow \infty$ .

(Compare limits of sequences, infinite series, power series, Taylor series...)

# Main result (Convergence of Fourier Series)

## Theorem

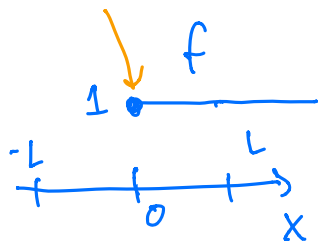
Let  $f$  be a piecewise smooth function on  $[-L, L]$ ; we will also consider its periodic extension,  $f_{pe}$ .

Then for every  $x$ , the Fourier series of  $f$  converges,

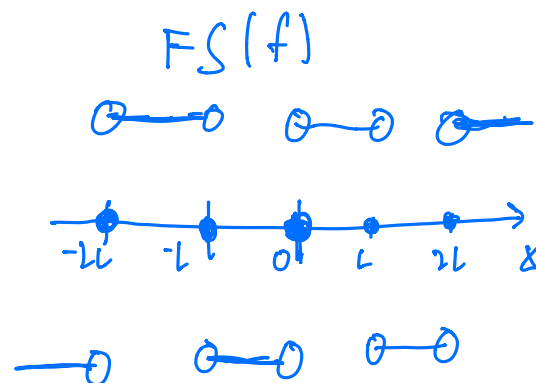
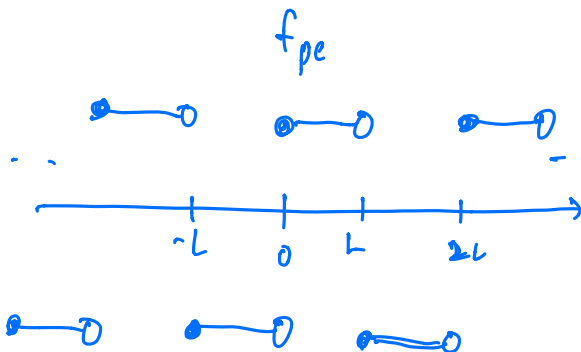
- to  $f_{pe}$  at every point  $x$  where  $f_{pe}$  is continuous
- to  $\frac{1}{2} [f_{pe}(x^+) + f_{pe}(x^-)]$  at every point  $x$  where  $f_{pe}$  is discontinuous.

(with a jump discontinuity)

$$f(0) = 1$$



$$f(0) \neq -1$$



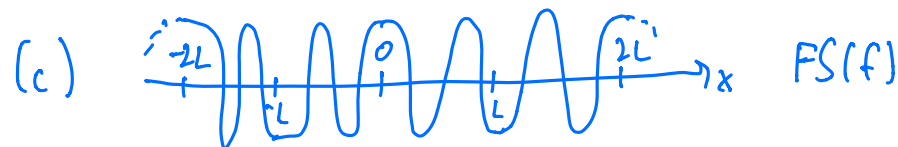
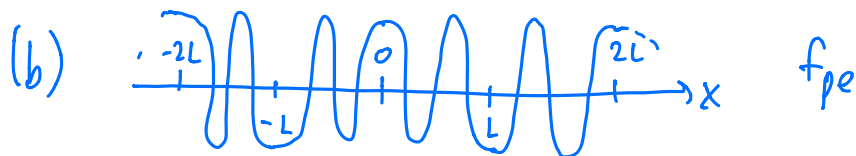


# Examples

For all the following examples, consider the Fourier series of  $f$  over the interval  $[-L, L]$ , and (a) plot  $f$ , (b) plot the periodic extension of  $f$ , (c) plot the Fourier series of  $f$ , and (d) compute the Fourier coefficients.

## Example

$$f(x) = \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right)$$



$$(d) \quad b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$= 0 \quad (\text{because integrand is odd.})$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{\substack{L \\ -L}}^L f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) dx = 0$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad (n \geq 1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad (\text{integrand is even})$$

$$= \begin{cases} 2/L \cdot L/2, & \text{if } n=3 \\ 2/L \cdot 0, & \text{if } n \neq 3 \end{cases} \quad (\text{orthogonality})$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1, & n=3 \\ 0, & n \neq 3 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow FS(f) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) = 1 \cdot \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) = f(x)$$

Thursday March 18

- HW #6 is posted (due March 23).  
(Fourier Series)
  - Quiz #5 on Tues/Wed next week. (Canvas)
  - Midterm #2 is 2 weeks from today.
    - Laplace's equations
    - Fourier Series
    - Wave eqn. (basics, next week)
    - no material directly from midterm #1 topics
    - based on HW (like before)
- 

Recall: Fourier Series on  $[-L, L]$

$$f(x) \stackrel{?}{\neq} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

not in general     || at points where  $f_{pe}$  is continuous

$f_{pe}(x)$

Converges to  $\frac{1}{2}(f_{pe}(x^+) + f_{pe}(x^-))$  at discontinuities

# Examples

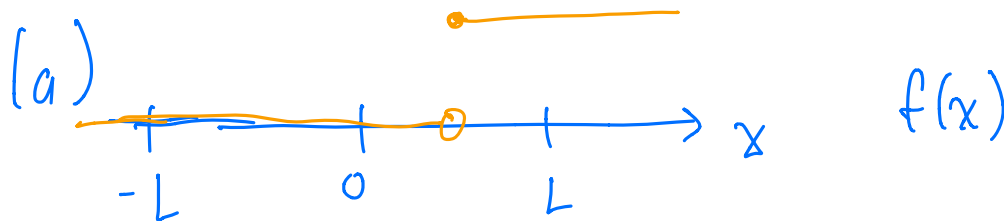
For all the following examples, consider the Fourier series of  $f$  over the interval  $[-L, L]$ , and (a) plot  $f$ , (b) plot the periodic extension of  $f$ , (c) plot the Fourier series of  $f$ , and (d) compute the Fourier coefficients.

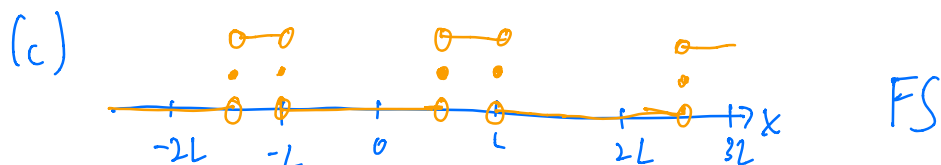
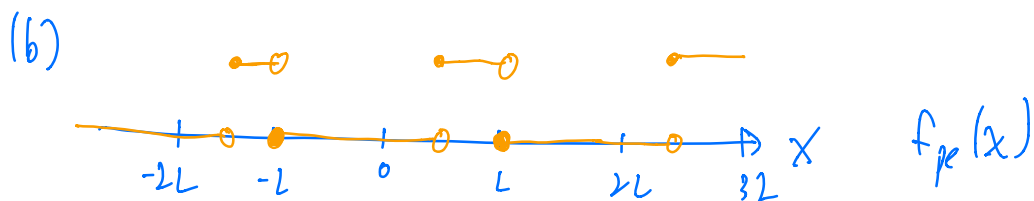
## Example

$$f(x) = \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right)$$

## Example

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < L/2 \\ 1, & x \geq L/2 \end{cases}$$





(d) Compute FS coefficients.

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{L/2}^L f(x) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2L} \int_{L/2}^L 1 dx = \frac{1}{2L} \cdot \frac{L}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$n \geq 1$ :  $a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \int_{L/2}^L \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \frac{L}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \Big|_{L/2}^L$$

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

$$= \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) = \begin{cases} 1, & n=1 \\ 0, & n=2 \\ -1, & n=3 \\ 0, & n=4 \\ 1, & n=5 \\ \vdots & \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow a_n = 0$  if  $n$  is even.

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

Similar computation for  $b_n$  coefficients...

## Examples

For all the following examples, consider the Fourier series of  $f$  over the interval  $[-L, L]$ , and (a) plot  $f$ , (b) plot the periodic extension of  $f$ , (c) plot the Fourier series of  $f$ , and (d) compute the Fourier coefficients.

### Example

$$f(x) = \cos\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right)$$

### Example

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < L/2 \\ 1, & x \geq L/2 \end{cases}$$

### Example

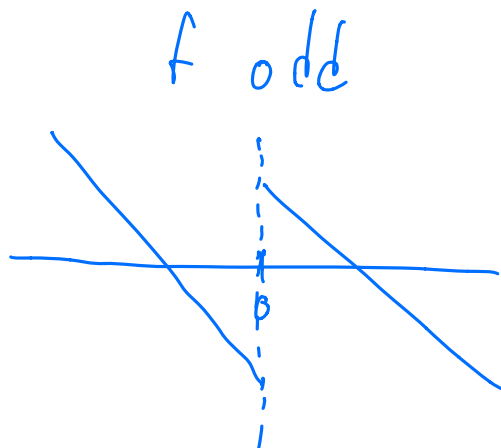
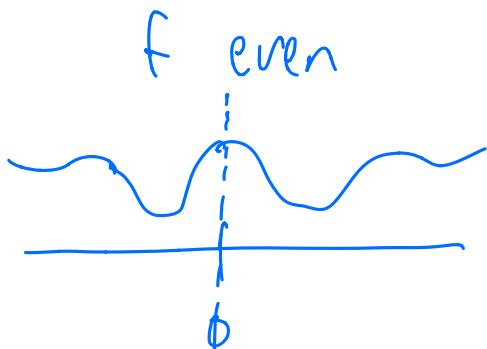
$$f(x) = |x|$$

## Even and odd functions

We will now move a little bit away from our standard Fourier series definitions.

Recall:

- A function  $f$  is even if  $f(x) = f(-x)$  for all real  $x$
- A function  $f$  is odd if  $f(x) = -f(-x)$  for all real  $x$





## Even and odd functions

We will now move a little bit away from our standard Fourier series definitions.

Recall:

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- A function  $f$  is odd if  $f(x) = -f(-x)$  for all real  $x$

Some immediate consequences of this:

- If  $f$  is even, its Fourier sine coefficients ( $b_n$ ) vanish.
- If  $f$  is odd, its Fourier cosine coefficients ( $a_n$ ) vanish.

proof:  $f$  is odd:  $f(x) = -f(-x)$

$$\underline{n \geq 1}: a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \left[ \int_{-L}^0 f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx + \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \right]$$

$$y = -x$$

$$dy = -dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \left[ \int_0^L \underline{f(-y)} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi y}{L}\right) dy + \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \right]$$

$f$  is odd

$$\downarrow$$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \left[ - \underbrace{\int_0^L f(y) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi y}{L}\right) dy}_{\text{}} + \underbrace{\int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx}_{\text{}} \right]$$

$$= 0.$$

# Fourier sine series

If  $f$  is ~~even~~ <sup>odd</sup>, then we need only compute the “sine portion” of its Fourier series.

This motivates another definition:

## Definition

The Fourier sine series of  $f$  is defined as,

$$FSS := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right),$$

where the Fourier sine coefficients are given by

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \quad n \geq 1.$$

$$FSS \neq FS$$

Q: when does the FSS converge to  $f$ ?

FS: Fourier series

## Fourier sine series convergence

Convergence of a Fourier sine series can be understood by directly applying our main theorem about Fourier series.

The result: Let  $f$  be a given function.

- Let  $f_{ope}$  be the “odd” periodic extension of  $f$ : on  $[0, L]$ 
  - ▶  $f_{ope}(x) = f(x)$  for  $x$  in  $[0, L]$ .
  - ▶  $f_{ope}(x) = -f(-x)$  for  $x$  in  $[-L, 0]$ .
  - ▶  $f_{ope}$  is periodically extended outside  $[-L, L]$ .
- The Fourier sine series of  $f$  converges to  $f_{ope}$  where  $f_{ope}$  is continuous, and to the average of the left- and right-hand limits when it is discontinuous.

## Examples

For all the following examples, consider the Fourier series of  $f$  over the interval  $[-L, L]$  and its Fourier sine series on  $[0, L]$ .

Complete the following (a) plot  $f$ , (b) plot the periodic extension of  $f$ , (c) plot the odd periodic extension of  $f$ , (d) plot the Fourier series of  $f$ , and (e) plot the Fourier sine series of  $f$ .

### Example

$$f(x) = x$$

# Examples

For all the following examples, consider the Fourier series of  $f$  over the interval  $[-L, L]$  and its Fourier sine series on  $[0, L]$ .

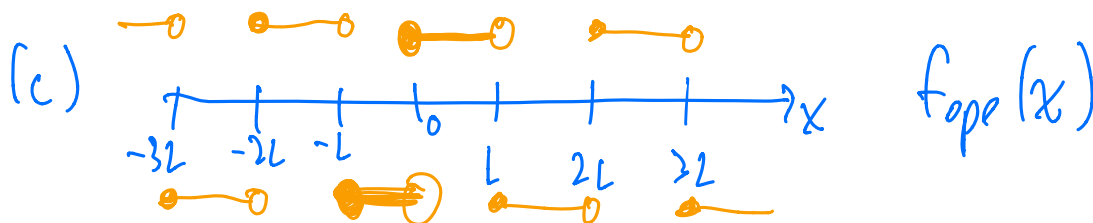
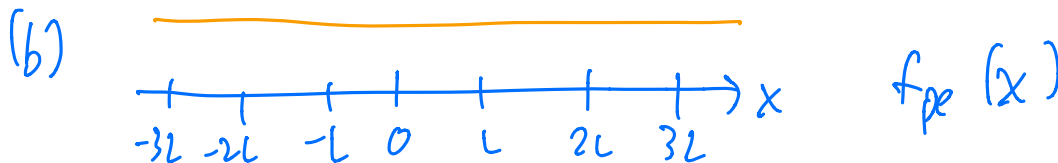
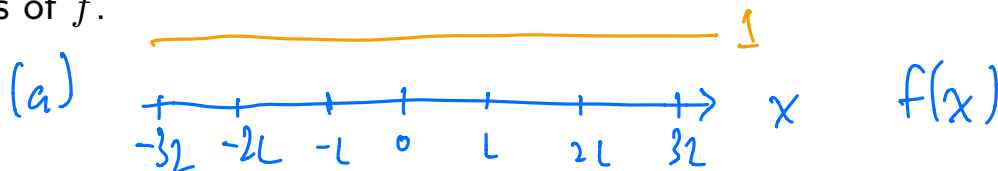
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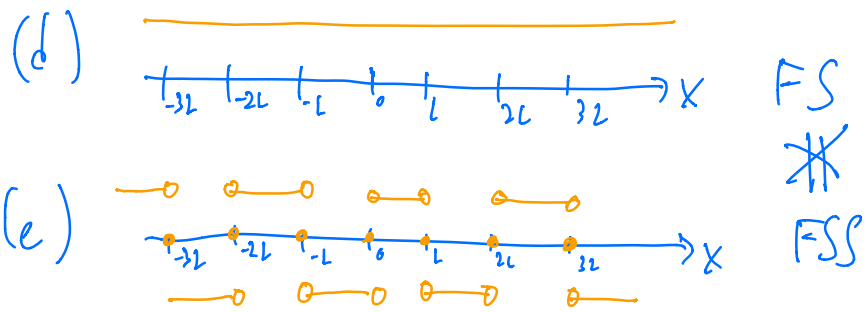
Example

$$f(x) = x$$

Example

$$f(x) = 1$$





If  $f$  is odd:  $FS = FSS$ .

## Examples

For all the following examples, consider the Fourier series of  $f$  over the interval  $[-L, L]$  and its Fourier sine series on  $[0, L]$ .

Complete the following (a) plot  $f$ , (b) plot the periodic extension of  $f$ , (c) plot the odd periodic extension of  $f$ , (d) plot the Fourier series of  $f$ , and (e) plot the Fourier sine series of  $f$ .

Example

$$f(x) = x$$

$$f \neq FS = FSS$$

Example

$$f(x) = 1$$

$$f = FS \neq FSS$$

Example

$$f(x) = \cos(\pi x/L)$$

$$f = FS$$

$$FS \neq FSS$$



## Fourier cosine series

If  ~~$f$  is odd~~ <sup>$f$  is even</sup>, then we need only compute the “cosine portion” of its Fourier series.  
This motivates the definition:

## Definition

The Fourier cosine series of  $f$  is defined as,

$$\overset{\text{FCS}}{\cancel{\text{FSS}}} := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right),$$

FS  $\neq$  FCS  
X X (in general)  
FCS

where the Fourier cosine coefficients are given by

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx,$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \quad n \geq 1.$$

Q: When does FCS converge?

## Fourier cosine series convergence

Convergence of a Fourier cosine series can be understood by directly applying our main theorem about Fourier series.

The result: Let  $f$  be a given function.

- Let  $f_{epe}$  be the “even” periodic extension of  $f$ :
  - ▶  $f_{epe}(x) = f(x)$  for  $x$  in  $[0, L]$ .
  - ▶  $f_{epe}(x) = f(-x)$  for  $x$  in  $[-L, 0]$ .
  - ▶  $f_{epe}$  is periodically extended outside  $[-L, L]$ .
- The Fourier cosine series of  $f$  converges to  $f_{epe}$  where  $f_{epe}$  is continuous, and to the average of the left- and right-hand limits when it is discontinuous.

# Examples

For the following example, consider the Fourier series of  $f$  over the interval  $[-L, L]$  and its Fourier sine and cosine series's on  $[0, L]$ .

Complete the following (a) plot  $f$ , (b) plot the periodic extension of  $f$ , (c) plot the odd periodic extension of  $f$ , (d) plot the even periodic extension of  $f$ , (e) plot the Fourier series of  $f$ , (f) plot the Fourier sine series of  $f$ , and (g) plot the Fourier cosine series of  $f$ .

## Example

$$f(x) = x$$

