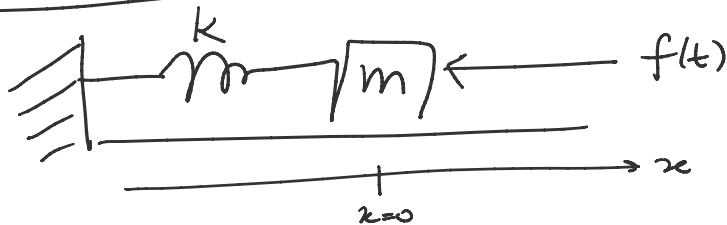


## Chapter 9: Fourier Series Methods and PDEs

## ★ 9.1: Periodic Functions &amp; Trigonometric Series

I. Periodic Functions:

$$x'' + w_0^2 x = f(t) \quad \text{where } w_0^2 = \frac{k}{m}$$

solve using method of undetermined coeff.

$$\text{if } f(t) = A \cos(\omega t)$$

and  $w_0^2 \neq \omega^2$  then

$$x(t) = \frac{A}{w_0^2 - \omega^2} \cos(\omega t)$$

$$\text{Suppose } f(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N A_n \cos(\omega_n t)$$

If  $\omega_n^2 \neq w_0^2$ , then

$$x_p(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{A_n}{w_0^2 - \omega_n^2} \cos(\omega_n t)$$

(typo in video)

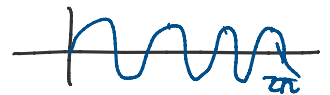
Note: many mechanical + electrical systems involve periodic forcing fens  $f(t)$ .


If  $f(t)$  is reasonably "nice" we can represent our solutions as series of trigonometric functions

Def: The function  $f(t)$  is periodic provided there exists  $p > 0$  such that  $f(t+p) = f(t)$  for all  $t$ .  
The value  $p$  is called the period of  $f$ .

Ex:  $g(t) = \cos(3t)$

period  $p = \frac{2\pi}{3}$



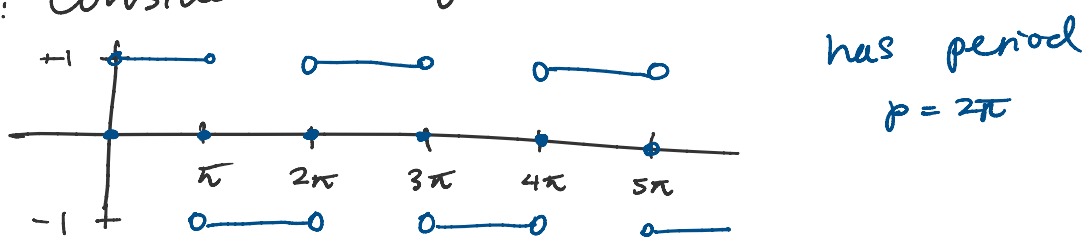
Ex:  $g(t) = \cos(3t)$  period  $p = \frac{2\pi}{3}$  

$$\cos\left(3\left(t + \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right) = \cos(3t + 2\pi) = \cos(3t)$$

Ex:  $f(t) = 3 + \cos(t) - \sin(t) + 5\cos(2t) + 17\sin(3t)$

Since  $\cos(nt)$  and  $\sin(nt)$  where  $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$  all have period of  $2\pi$  so  $f(t)$  will also have a period of  $2\pi$ .

Ex: Consider the square wave:



## II. Fourier Series of period $2\pi$ functions

In 1822, Joseph Fourier asserted that every  $f(t)$  with period  $2\pi$  can be represented by an infinite trigonometric series

$$f(t) \sim \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt))$$

a series of this form is called a Fourier series

true with some mild restrictions on  $f(t)$

Def: two functions  $u(t)$  and  $v(t)$  are orthogonal on the interval  $[a, b]$  if

$$\int_a^b u(t)v(t) dt = 0$$

Note:  $\cos(nt)$  and  $\sin(nt)$   $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$  are orthogonal on  $[-\pi, \pi]$

$-\pi$

for all  $m, n$

are orthogonal on  $[-\pi, \pi]$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(mt) \sin(nt) dt = 0 \quad \text{for all } m, n$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(mt) \cos(nt) dt = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \neq m \\ \pi & \text{if } n = m \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(mt) \sin(nt) dt = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \neq m \\ \pi & \text{if } n = m \end{cases}$$

Now, let's assume Fourier's assertion is true

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (a_m \cos(mt) + b_m \sin(mt))$$

We will derive the values of  $a_m$  and  $b_m$ .

Derive  $a_0$ : integrate both sides over  $[-\pi, \pi]$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) dt = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{a_0}{2} dt + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left( a_m \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(mt) dt \right) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left( b_m \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(mt) dt \right)$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(mt) dt = \left[ \frac{\sin(mt)}{m} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{\sin(m\pi)}{m} - \frac{\sin(-m\pi)}{m}$$

$\sin(-z) = -\sin(z)$

$$= \frac{\sin(m\pi) + \sin(m\pi)}{m} = 2 \frac{\sin(m\pi)}{m} = 0$$

$\cos(-z) = \cos(z)$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(mt) dt = \left[ -\frac{\cos(mt)}{m} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = -\frac{\cos(m\pi)}{m} + \frac{\cos(-m\pi)}{m}$$

$$= -\frac{\cos(m\pi) + \cos(m\pi)}{m} = 0$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) dt = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dt = \frac{a_0}{2} \left[ t \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{a_0}{2} [\pi - (-\pi)] = \frac{2\pi a_0}{2}$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) dt$$

$\frac{a_0}{2}$  is the average value of  $f(t)$  over  $[-\pi, \pi]$

as we add more terms in the series, it will get ...  $f(t)$ .

as we add more terms in the series, it will get closer to  $f(t)$ .

Now let's derive  $a_n$ , use the fact that  $\cos(mt)$  terms are orthogonal

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(nt) dt + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \left( \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(mt) \cos(nt) dt \right) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_m \left( \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(mt) \cos(nt) dt \right)$$

$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \neq m \\ \pi & \text{if } n = m \end{cases}$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt = a_n \pi$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt$$

Similarly, we can derive  $b_n$ , by integrate against  $\sin(nt)$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(nt) dt + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \left( \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(mt) \sin(nt) dt \right) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_m \left( \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(mt) \sin(nt) dt \right)$$

$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \neq m \\ \pi & \text{if } n = m \end{cases}$

$$= b_n \pi$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt$$

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt))$$

think of this as a "projection" like in linear algebra.

$\sin(nt)$  and  $\cos(nt)$  as basis "vectors", and

$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} u(t)v(t) dt$  is like a dot product of two "vectors"

Def: Let  $f(t)$  be a piecewise continuous function of period  $2\pi$ . Then the Fourier series of  $f(t)$  is:



Def: Let  $f(t)$  be a p...  
 period  $2\pi$ . Then the Fourier series of  $f(t)$  is:

$$\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt))$$

where the Fourier coefficients  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  are

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

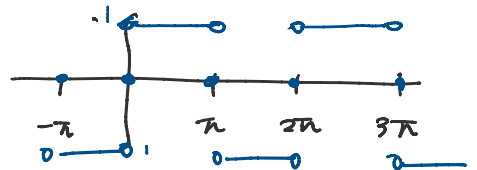
Note: Sometimes this series fails to converge to the fun  $f(t)$  at some points  $t$ .

$$f(t) \sim \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt))$$

↑  
 instead of =

Ex: Find the Fourier series of the square wave

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ +1 & \text{if } 0 < t < \pi \\ 0 & \text{if } t = -\pi, 0, \pi \end{cases}$$



Let's calculate  $a_0$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_{-\pi}^0 (-1) dt + \int_0^{\pi} (+1) dt \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ (-t)_{-\pi}^0 + (t)_{0}^{\pi} \right] = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ -0 - (-\pi) + (\pi - 0) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ -\pi + \pi \right] = 0 \quad \boxed{a_0 = 0} \quad \text{the average value of } f(t) \text{ is zero}$$

Now, let's calculate  $a_n$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_{-\pi}^0 (-1) \cos(nt) dt + \int_0^{\pi} (+1) \cos(nt) dt \right]$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_{-\pi}^0 (-1) \cos(nt) dt + \int_0^{\pi} (+1) \cos(nt) dt \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \left( -\frac{\sin(nt)}{n} \right)_{-\pi}^0 + \left( \frac{\sin(nt)}{n} \right)_0^{\pi} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ -\frac{\sin(0)}{n} - \left( -\frac{\sin(-n\pi)}{n} \right) + \frac{\sin(n\pi)}{n} - \frac{\sin(0)}{n} \right]$$

$$= 0$$

$$\boxed{a_n = 0}$$

expect this, since the square wave is an odd function, and  $\cos(nt)$  is even.



$\sin(n\pi) = 0$

Now let's calculate  $b_n$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_{-\pi}^0 (-1) \sin(nt) dt + \int_0^{\pi} (+1) \sin(nt) dt \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \left( \frac{\cos(nt)}{n} \right)_{-\pi}^0 + \left( -\frac{\cos(nt)}{n} \right)_0^{\pi} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\cos(0)}{n} - \frac{\cos(-n\pi)}{n} + -\frac{\cos(n\pi)}{n} + \frac{\cos(0)}{n} \right]$$

$\cos(-x) = \cos(x)$

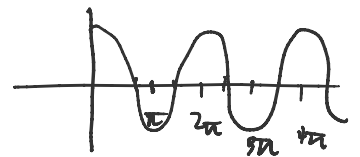
$$= \frac{1}{n\pi} [1 - \cos(n\pi) - \cos(n\pi) + 1]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n\pi} [2 - 2\cos(n\pi)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n\pi} [2 - 2(-1)^n]$$

$$= \frac{2}{n\pi} [1 - (-1)^n]$$

$$b_n = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{n\pi} & n \text{ odd} \\ 0 & n \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

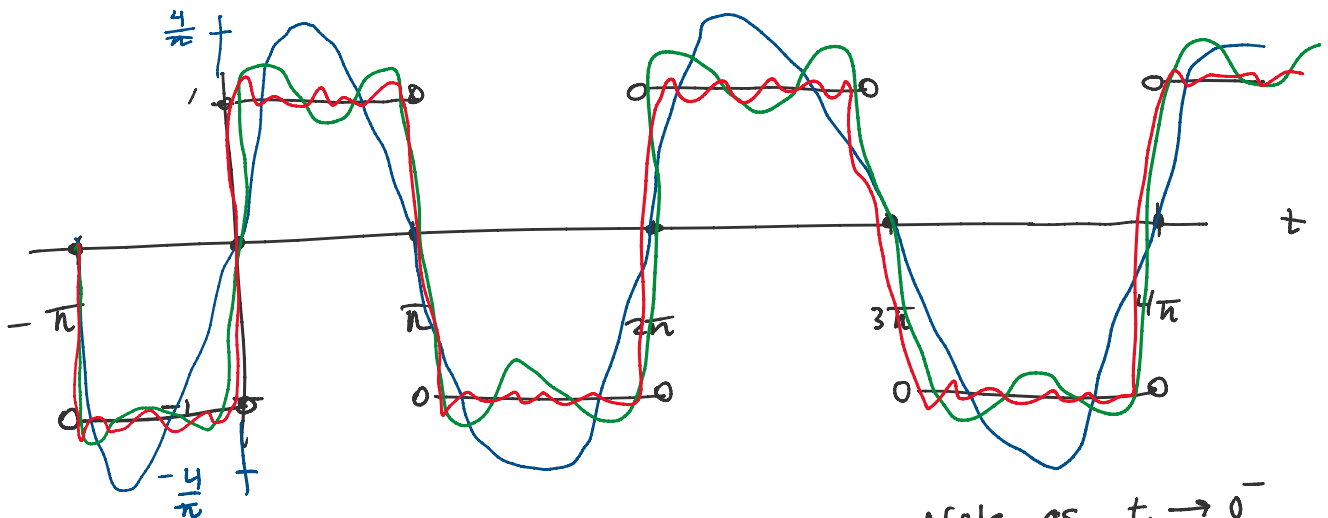


$$\cos(n\pi) = \begin{cases} +1 & n = \text{even} \\ -1 & n = \text{odd} \end{cases} = (-1)^n$$

So we can write the Fourier series

$$f(t) \sim \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{\sin(nt)}{n}$$

$$= \frac{4}{\pi} \left[ \sin(t) + \frac{1}{3} \sin(3t) + \frac{1}{5} \sin(5t) + \dots \right]$$



$$\frac{4}{\pi} \sin(t)$$

$$\frac{4}{\pi} \left[ \sin(t) + \frac{1}{3} \sin(3t) \right]$$

$$\frac{4}{\pi} \left[ \sin(t) + \frac{1}{3} \sin(3t) + \frac{1}{5} \sin(5t) \right]$$

Note as  $t \rightarrow 0^-$   
the series overshoots  
the value  $-1$

near a discontinuity  
we see this behavior

Gibb's phenomenon

Note: When  $f(t)$  has terms that are a polynomial in  $t$ ,  
the following formulas are useful

$$\int u \cos(u) du = \cos(u) + u \sin(u) + C$$

$$\int u \sin(u) du = \sin(u) - u \cos(u) + C$$

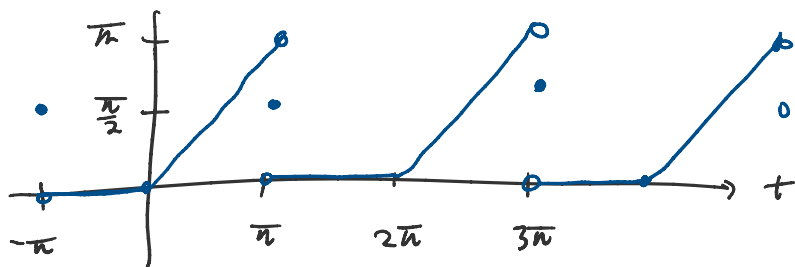
$$\int u^n \cos(u) du = u^n \sin(u) - n \int u^{n-1} \sin(u) du$$

$$\int u^n \sin(u) du = -u^n \cos(u) + n \int u^{n-1} \cos(u) du$$

derive all of these Integration by Parts

Ex: Find the Fourier series of the  $2\pi$  periodic fcn that is defined on one period to be

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } -\pi < t < 0 \\ t & \text{if } 0 \leq t < \pi \\ \frac{\pi}{2} & \text{if } t = \pm\pi \end{cases}$$



Calculate  $a_0$  first

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_{-\pi}^0 0 dt + \int_0^{\pi} t dt \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{t^2}{2} \right)_0^{\pi} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{\pi^2}{2} - 0 \right) = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \boxed{a_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}}$$

Calculate the  $a_n$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} t \cos(nt) dt$$

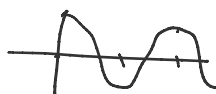
$$u = nt \quad t = \frac{u}{n} \quad dt = \frac{du}{n}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \left[ \int_0^{n\pi} u \cos(u) du \right] \quad \int u \cos(u) du = \cos(u) + u \sin(u)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \left[ \cos(u) + u \sin(u) \right]_0^{n\pi}$$



$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \left[ \underbrace{\cos(n\pi)}_{(-1)^n} - \underbrace{\cos(0)}_1 + n\pi \underbrace{\sin(n\pi)}_0 - 0 \right]$$



$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \left[ (-1)^n - 1 \right] = \boxed{\begin{cases} \frac{-2}{n^2 \pi} & n \text{ odd} \\ 0 & n \text{ even} \end{cases}} = a_n$$

Calculate the  $b_n$

$\pi$

$u = nt$

Calculate the  $b_n$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} t \sin(nt) dt \quad \begin{array}{l} u = nt \\ t = \frac{u}{n} \quad dt = \frac{du}{n} \end{array}$$

$$\int u \sin(u) du = \sin(u) - u \cos(u)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \int_0^{n\pi} u \sin(u) du$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \left[ \sin(u) - u \cos(u) \right]_0^{n\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \left[ \sin(n\pi) - \sin(0) - \left( n\pi \underbrace{\cos(n\pi)}_{(-1)^n} - 0 \right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2 \pi} \left[ -n\pi (-1)^n \right] = \frac{n\pi (-1)^{n+1}}{n^2 \pi} = \boxed{\frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} = b_n}$$

So we write the Fourier series

$$f(t) \sim \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{\cos(nt)}{n^2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} \sin(nt)}{n}$$

Note: If  $f(t)$  is periodic with  $p = 2\pi$ , then we can also compute the Fourier coefficients by integrating over  $[0, 2\pi]$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt$$