

## Section 17: Fourier Series: Trigonometric Series

Find the Fourier Series for  $f(x) = x$ ,  $-1 < x < 1$ .  $(-p, p)$

Here  $p=1$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{1} \int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 x dx = \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_{-1}^1 = \frac{1^2}{2} - \frac{(-1)^2}{2} = 0$$

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

parts  $u = x$   $du = dx$

$v = \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x)$   $dv = \cos(n\pi x) dx$

$$= \left. \frac{x}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) \right|_{-1}^1 - \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi) - \frac{(-1)}{n\pi} \sin(-n\pi) + \frac{1}{n^2\pi^2} \cos(n\pi x) \Big|_{-1}^1$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2\pi^2} \cos(n\pi) - \frac{1}{n^2\pi^2} \cos(-n\pi) = 0$$

$a_n = 0$  for all  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

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

parts

$$u = x$$

$$du = dx$$

$$v = \frac{-1}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi x)$$

$$dv = \sin(n\pi x) dx$$

$$= \left. \frac{-x}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi x) \right|_{-1}^1 + \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi x) dx$$

$$= \frac{-1}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi) - \frac{-(-1)}{n\pi} \cos(-n\pi) + \frac{1}{n^2 \pi^2} \sin(n\pi x) \Big|_{-1}^1$$

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

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

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

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

So

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x)$$

# Symmetry

For  $f(x) = x$ ,  $-1 < x < 1$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x)$$

**Observation:**  $f$  is an odd function. It is not surprising then that there are no nonzero constant or cosine terms (which have even symmetry) in the Fourier series for  $f$ .

The following plots show  $f$ ,  $f$  plotted along with some partial sums of the series, and  $f$  along with a partial sum of its series extended outside of the original domain  $(-1, 1)$ .

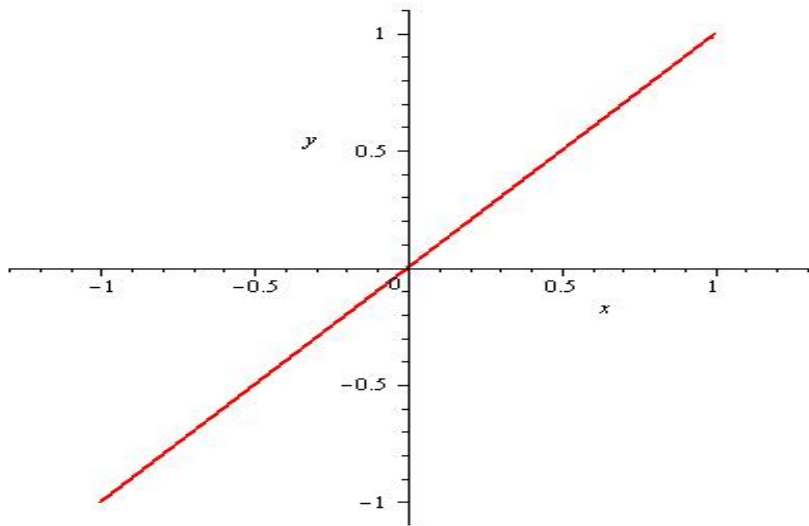


Figure: Plot of  $f(x) = x$  for  $-1 < x < 1$

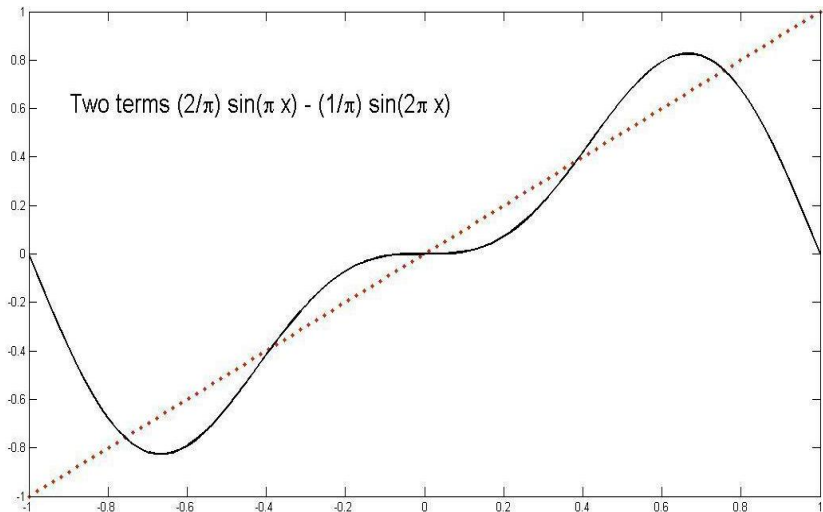


Figure: Plot of  $f(x) = x$  for  $-1 < x < 1$  with two terms of the Fourier series.

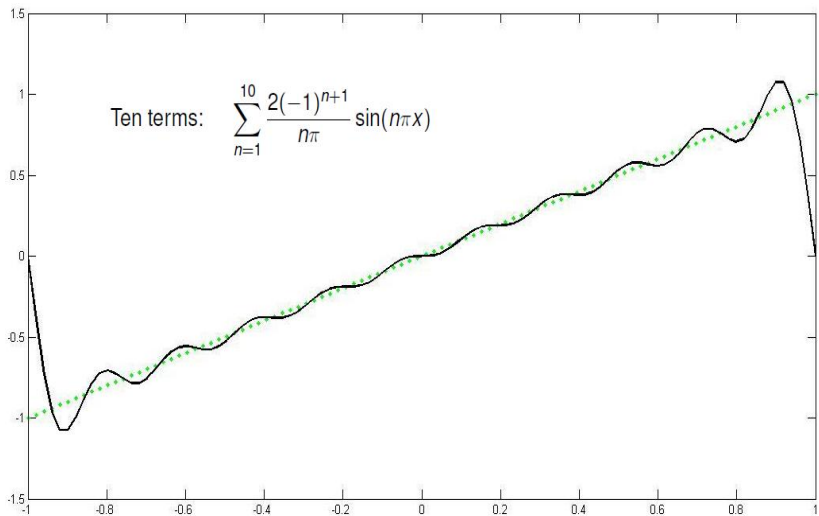
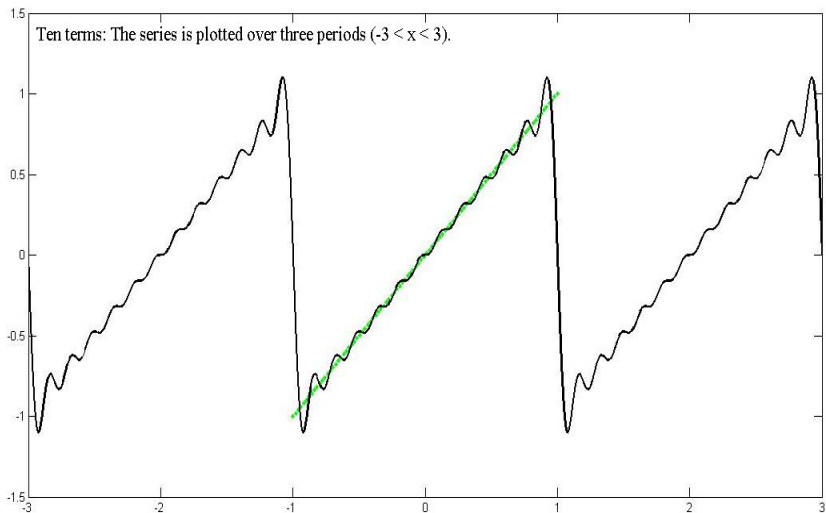


Figure: Plot of  $f(x) = x$  for  $-1 < x < 1$  with 10 terms of the Fourier series





**Figure:** Plot of  $f(x) = x$  for  $-1 < x < 1$  with the Fourier series plotted on  $(-3, 3)$ . Note that the series repeats the profile every 2 units. At the jumps, the series converges to  $(-1 + 1)/2 = 0$ .

## Section 18: Sine and Cosine Series

### Functions with Symmetry

#### Recall some definitions:

Suppose  $f$  is defined on an interval containing  $x$  and  $-x$ .

If  $f(-x) = f(x)$  for all  $x$ , then  $f$  is said to be **even**.

If  $f(-x) = -f(x)$  for all  $x$ , then  $f$  is said to be **odd**.

For example,  $f(x) = x^n$  is even if  $n$  is even and is odd if  $n$  is odd. The trigonometric function  $g(x) = \cos x$  is even, and  $h(x) = \sin x$  is odd.

## Integrals on symmetric intervals

If  $f$  is an even function on  $(-p, p)$ , then

$$\int_{-p}^p f(x) dx = 2 \int_0^p f(x) dx.$$

If  $f$  is an odd function on  $(-p, p)$ , then

$$\int_{-p}^p f(x) dx = 0.$$

## Products of Even and Odd functions

$$\text{Even} \times \text{Even} = \text{Even},$$

and

$$\text{Odd} \times \text{Odd} = \text{Even}.$$

While

$$\text{Even} \times \text{Odd} = \text{Odd}.$$

So, suppose  $f$  **is even** on  $(-p, p)$ . This tells us that  $f(x) \cos(nx)$  is **even** for all  $n$  and  $f(x) \sin(nx)$  is **odd** for all  $n$ .

And, if  $f$  **is odd** on  $(-p, p)$ . This tells us that  $f(x) \sin(nx)$  is **even** for all  $n$  and  $f(x) \cos(nx)$  is **odd** for all  $n$ .

## Fourier Series of an Even Function

If  $f$  is even on  $(-p, p)$ , then the Fourier series of  $f$  has only constant and cosine terms. Moreover

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right)$$

where

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{p} \int_0^p f(x) dx$$

and

$$a_n = \frac{2}{p} \int_0^p f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right) dx.$$

## Fourier Series of an Odd Function

If  $f$  is odd on  $(-p, p)$ , then the Fourier series of  $f$  has only sine terms. Moreover

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right)$$

where

$$b_n = \frac{2}{p} \int_0^p f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right) dx.$$

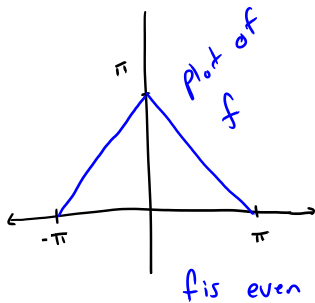
Find the Fourier series of  $f$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x + \pi, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ \pi - x, & 0 \leq x < \pi \end{cases}$$

The series will not have any sine terms

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(nx)$$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx, \quad a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx$$



$$a_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \pi x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{2}{\pi} \left( \pi^2 - \frac{\pi^2}{2} - 0 \right)$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left( \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right) = \pi$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) \cos(nx) dx$$

parts

$$u = \pi - x$$

$$du = -dx$$

$$v = \frac{1}{n} \sin(nx)$$

$$dv = \cos(nx) dx$$



$$a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\pi-x}{n} \sin(nx) \right]_0^{\pi} + \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1}{n} \sin(nx) dx$$

0

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \frac{-1}{n^2} \cos(nx) \right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{-2}{\pi n^2} (\cos(n\pi) - \cos(0))$$

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

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

## Half Range Sine and Half Range Cosine Series

Suppose  $f$  is only defined for  $0 < x < p$ . We can **extend**  $f$  to the left, to the interval  $(-p, 0)$ , as either an even function or as an odd function. Then we can express  $f$  with **two distinct** series:

$$\text{Half range cosine series } f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right)$$

$$\text{where } a_0 = \frac{2}{p} \int_0^p f(x) dx \quad \text{and} \quad a_n = \frac{2}{p} \int_0^p f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right) dx.$$

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$$\text{Half range sine series } f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right)$$

$$\text{where } b_n = \frac{2}{p} \int_0^p f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{p}\right) dx.$$

## Extending a Function to be Odd

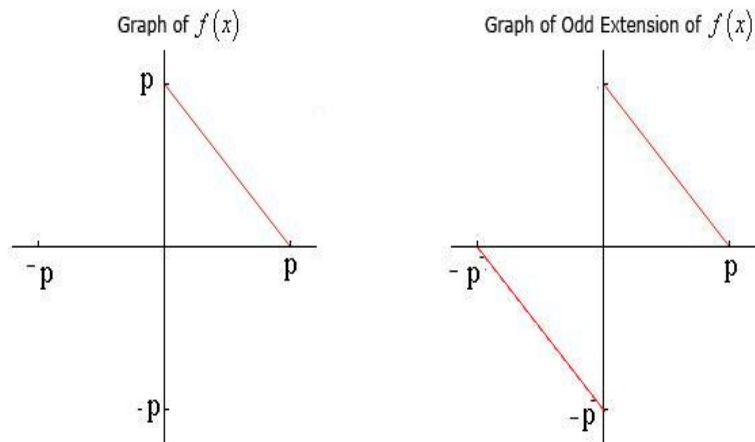


Figure:  $f(x) = p - x$ ,  $0 < x < p$  together with its **odd** extension.

## Extending a Function to be Even

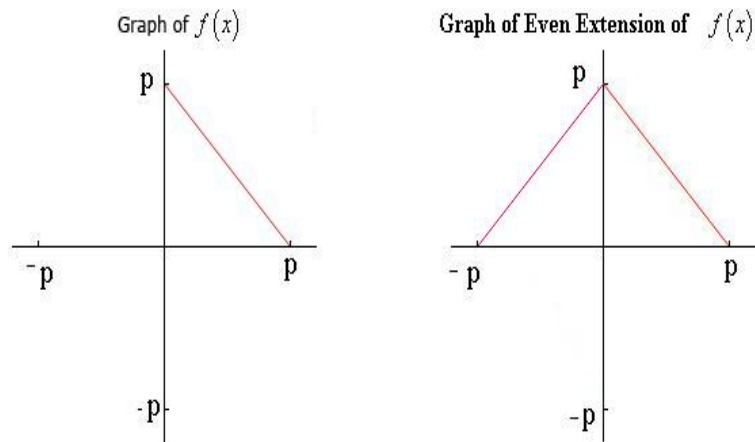


Figure:  $f(x) = p - x$ ,  $0 < x < p$  together with its **even** extension.