

CN 29 Fourier Series Examples  
Determine a F.S. expansion for  $f(x)$ .

$$\textcircled{1} \quad f(x) = \cos^2 x = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cos 2x \quad (\text{trig identity}), \quad -\pi < x < \pi \\ = a_0 + a_1 \cos x + b_1 \sin x + a_2 \cos 2x + b_2 \sin 2x + \dots,$$

$$\text{where } a_0 = \frac{1}{2}, a_1 = 0, b_1 = 0, a_2 = \frac{1}{2}, a_3 = a_4 = a_5 = \dots = 0$$

$$b_2 = b_3 = b_4 = \dots = 0.$$

$$② \quad f(x) = x$$

$$a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (a_k \cos kx + b_k \sin kx)$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx, \quad a_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos kx dx,$$

$$b_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin kx dx, \quad k=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{1}{4\pi} [\pi^2 - (-\pi)^2]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} [\pi^2 - \pi^2] = 0$$

$$a_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \underbrace{\cos kx}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{even}}} dx = 0$$

odd

Integrand is an odd  
fnc. Interval  $(-\pi, \pi)$   
is symmetrical about 0.

② continued

FS exs, p3

$$b_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \underbrace{x \sin kx dx}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{odd} \quad \uparrow \\ \text{odd} \quad \text{odd}}}$$

Integrand is an even func.  
Interval  $(-\pi, \pi)$  is symmetrical about 0.

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin kx dx \quad u = x \quad dv = \sin kx dx$$

$$du = dx \quad v = -\frac{\cos kx}{k}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ uv \Big|_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} v du \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ -\frac{1}{k} x \cos kx \Big|_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} -\frac{1}{k} \cos kx dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ -\frac{1}{k} x \cos kx + \frac{1}{k} \frac{\sin kx}{k} \right] \Big|_0^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi k} \left[ -x \cos kx + \frac{1}{k} \sin kx \right] \Big|_0^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi k} \left[ -\pi \cos k\pi + 0 - (-0 + 0) \right] = -\frac{2}{k} \cos k\pi$$

$$b_k = -\frac{2}{k} \cos k\pi = \begin{cases} -\frac{2}{k}(1) & \text{if } k \text{ even} \\ -\frac{2}{k}(-1) & \text{if } k \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

$$= -\frac{2}{k} (-1)^k, \quad k=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

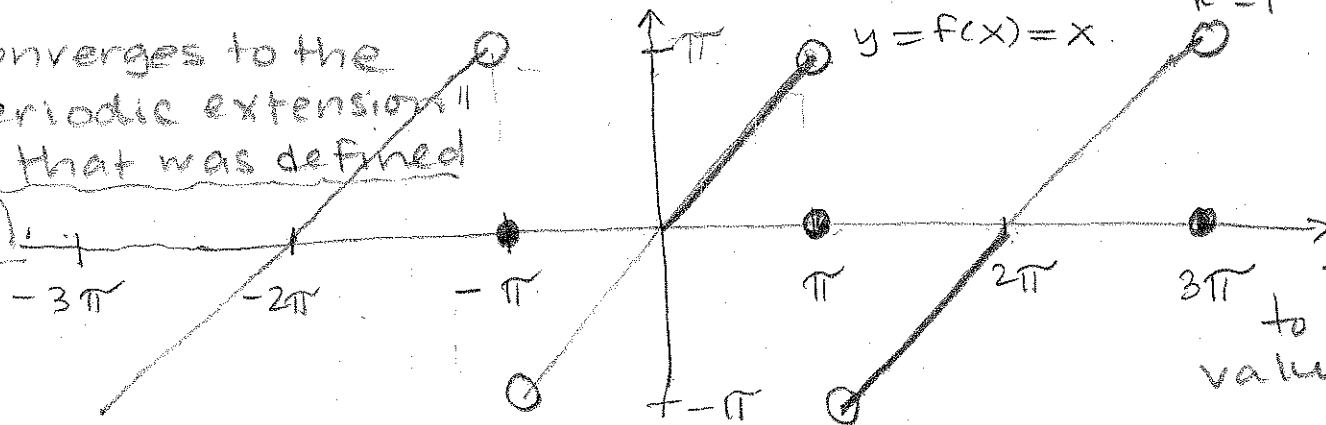
$$\overset{0}{a_0} + \overset{0}{a_1} \cos x + b_1 \sin x + \overset{0}{a_2} \cos 2x + b_2 \sin 2x + \overset{0}{a_3} \cos 3x + b_3 \sin 3x + \dots$$

$$= b_1 \sin x + b_2 \sin 2x + b_3 \sin 3x + \dots$$

$$= \frac{2}{1} \sin x - \frac{2}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{2}{3} \sin 3x + \dots$$

$$= 2 \left( \sin x - \frac{\sin 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} - \dots \right) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} -\frac{2}{k} (-1)^k \sin kx$$

F.S. converges to the  
"2 $\pi$ -periodic extension"  
of  $f(x)$  that was defined  
on  $(-\pi, \pi)$ .



Expect a  
2 $\pi$ -periodic  
fnc.

The F.S. converges  
to the average  
value of the jumps.

there are two things to notice:

(1) The series gives the answer zero at  $x = \pi$ . This answer is halfway between the values of  $f$  on opposite sides of the discontinuity.

(2) Near the jump there is an overshoot of about 18%. This is the **Gibbs phenomenon**, which does not disappear as more Fourier terms are kept—it moves closer to the jump.

Both 1 and 2 are typical of Fourier series at a discontinuity. Since the step function at a jump is the integral of a delta function, the overshoot and oscillations in Fig. 4.3 must be the integral of Fig. 4.2. The area under the central arch in Fig. 4.2 is nearly  $1.18\pi$ .†

Another typical and important feature of jumps is the slow decay of the Fourier coefficients. As in (12), the  $k$ th coefficient is of order  $1/k$ ; that reappears for the square wave in the exercises. For its integral the hat function,  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  decay like  $1/k^2$ . For its derivative the delta function,  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  are constant.

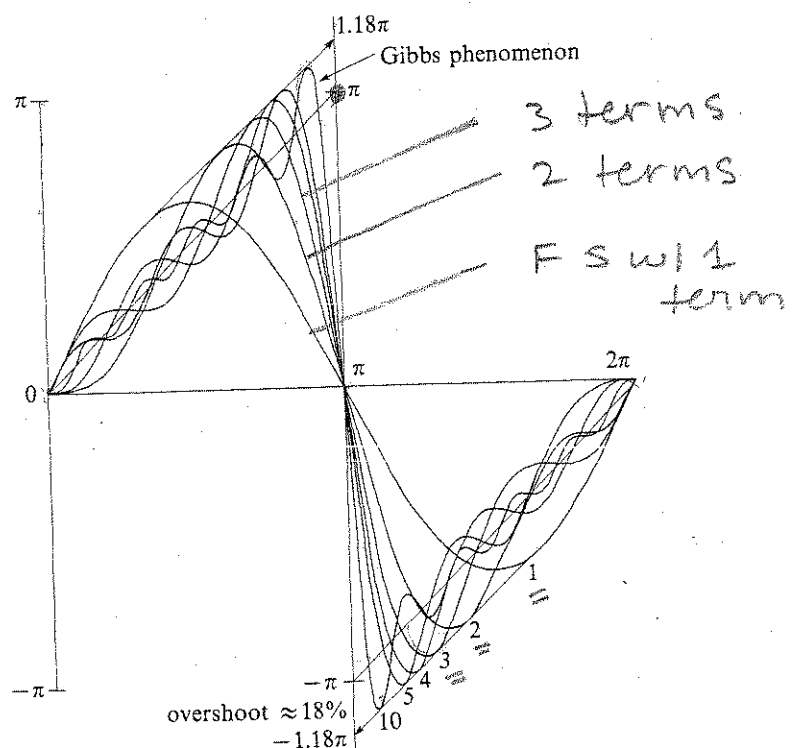


Fig. 4.3. Partial sums of the Fourier series for  $f = x$ .

† This number is not the same in all books.