



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Fourier Series :

If $f(x)$ is a periodic function, it satisfies the Dirichlet's condition then it can be represented by an infinite series called as Fourier series,

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

where,

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2l} \int_c^{c+2l} f(x) dx$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_c^{c+2l} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_c^{c+2l} f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx$$

This is Fourier series of $f(x)$ defined in the interval $c \leq x \leq c+2l$. Then a_0 , a_n and b_n are called Fourier constant (or) Euler's formula.



FORMULA:

| Limit | $f(x)$ | Fourier constant |
|-----------|--|---|
| $(0, 2l)$ | $f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$ | $a_0 = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) dx$ $a_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$ $b_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$ |
| $(-l, l)$ | $f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$ | $a_0 = \frac{1}{l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) dx$ $a_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$ $b_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$ |

Problems based on the interval $(0, 2l)$:

① Find the Fourier Series for the function

$f(x) = x^2$ in the interval $(0, 2l)$

Soln:

Fourier series:

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

→ ①



To find a_0 :

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} x^2 dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^{2l}$$

$$a_0 = \frac{8l^2}{3}$$

To find a_n :

$$a_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} x^2 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \left[\frac{l}{n\pi} x^2 \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} + \frac{2x \cdot l^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} + 2 \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \left(\frac{l}{n\pi}\right)^3 \right]_0^{2l}$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \left[\frac{2l^3}{n^2 \pi^2} (1) + \frac{2l^3}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos 0 \right]$$

$$a_n = \frac{4l^2}{n^2 \pi^2}$$

| | |
|------------|---|
| $u = x^2$ | $V = \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l}$ |
| $u' = 2x$ | $V_1 = \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{n\pi/l}$ |
| $u'' = 2$ | $V_2 = -\frac{\cos \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{(n\pi/l)^2}$ |
| $u''' = 0$ | $V_3 = \frac{-\sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{(n\pi/l)^3}$ |



To find b_n :

$$b_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} x^2 \sin \left(\frac{n\pi x}{l} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \left[-x^2 \frac{l}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} + 2x \frac{l^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \sin \left(\frac{n\pi x}{l} \right) + \frac{2l^3}{n^3 \pi^3} \cos \left(\frac{n\pi x}{l} \right) \right]_0^{2l}$$

$$= \frac{1}{l} \left[-\frac{4l^3}{n\pi} + \frac{2l^3}{n^3 \pi^3} - \frac{2l^3}{n^3 \pi^3} \right]$$

$$b_n = -\frac{4l^2}{n\pi}$$

Subs a_0, a_n and b_n in (1),

$$f(x) = \frac{4l^2}{3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4l^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} - \frac{4l^2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$$

(2) Find the Fourier Series for $f(x) = 2x - x^2$ in $0 < x < 2$.

Soln: Here $2l = 2 \Rightarrow l = 1$

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



To find a_0 :

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) dx$$
$$= \frac{1}{1} \int_0^2 f(x) dx \quad (\because l=1)$$

$$= \int_0^2 (2x - x^2) dx$$

$$= \left[\frac{2x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^2 = 4 - \frac{8}{3} = \frac{12-8}{3}$$

$$a_0 = \frac{4}{3}$$

To find a_n :

$$a_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{1} \int_0^2 f(x) \cos n\pi x dx$$

$$= \int_0^2 (2x - x^2) \cos n\pi x dx$$

$$= \int_0^2 (2x - x^2) \left[\frac{\sin n\pi x}{n\pi} + \frac{2-2x}{n^2\pi^2} \cos n\pi x \right. \\ \left. + 2 \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n^3\pi^3} \right] dx$$

$$= \left[\frac{-2}{n^2\pi^2} + \frac{2x}{n^2\pi^2} \right]_0^2$$

$$a_n = \frac{-4}{n^2\pi^2}$$



To find b_n :

$$b_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{1} \int_0^2 f(x) \sin n\pi x dx$$

$$= \left[-(2x - x^2) \frac{\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} + (2 - 2x) \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right. \\ \left. - \frac{2 \cos n\pi x}{n^3 \pi^3} \right]_0^2$$

$$b_n = 0.$$

Subs a_0 , a_n and b_n in (1),

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{-4}{-n^2 \pi^2} \right) \cos n\pi x$$

(3) Find the Fourier series for

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & , 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 2-x & , 1 \leq x \leq 2 \end{cases}$$

Soln:

$$\text{Here } 2l = 2 \Rightarrow l = 1$$

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

To find a_0 :

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{1} \int_0^2 f(x) dx$$



$$a_0 = \int_0^1 x dx + \int_1^2 (2-x) dx$$
$$= \left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right)_0^1 + \left(2x - \frac{x^2}{2}\right)_1^2$$

$$a_0 = 1$$

To find a_n :

$$a_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$
$$= \int_0^1 x \cos n\pi x dx + \int_1^2 (2-x) \cos n\pi x dx$$
$$= \left[x \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n\pi} + \frac{\cos n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right]_0^1 + \left[(2-x) \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n\pi} - \frac{\cos n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right]_1^2$$
$$= \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2 \pi^2} - \frac{1}{n^2 \pi^2} - \frac{1}{n^2 \pi^2} + \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2 \pi^2}$$

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

To find b_n :

$$b_n = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$
$$= \frac{1}{1} \int_0^2 f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{1} dx$$
$$= \int_0^1 x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{1} dx + \int_1^2 (2-x) \sin n\pi x dx$$

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

$$b_n = 0$$

Subs a_0, a_n and b_n in (1),

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

4. Find the Fourier series for the function $f(x) = x^2$ in $(0, 2\pi)$.

Soln:

Here $2l = 2\pi$

$$l = \pi$$

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

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

To find a_0 :

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{8\pi^3}{3\pi}$$

$$a_0 = \frac{8\pi^2}{3}$$

To find a_n :

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 \cos nx \, dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[x^2 \frac{\sin nx}{n} + \frac{2x \cos nx}{n^2} - \frac{2 \sin nx}{n^3} \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[0 + \frac{4\pi}{n^2} - 0 \right]$$

$$a_n = \frac{4}{n^2}$$

To find b_n :

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 \sin nx \, dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-x^2 \frac{\cos nx}{n} + \frac{2x \sin nx}{n^2} + \frac{2 \cos nx}{n^3} \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\frac{4\pi^2}{n} + \frac{2}{n^3} - \frac{2}{n^3} \right]$$

$$b_n = -\frac{4\pi}{n}$$

Subs a_0 , a_n and b_n in (1),

$$f(x) = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n^2} \cos nx - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4\pi}{n} \sin nx$$