Fourier series and Fourier transforms

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Fourier series expansion

Let f an integrable and periodic function, with period L . One can then define

$$
F(x) = a_0 + \sum_{k \ge 1} \left(a_k \cos \frac{2\pi kx}{L} + b_k \sin \frac{2\pi kx}{L} \right)
$$

with
$$
a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx
$$
, $a_k = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{2\pi kx}{L} dx$, $b_k = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{2\pi kx}{L} dx$

F is the so-called **Fourier series expansion** of f .

This expansion also reads
$$
F(x) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} c_k e^{\frac{2i\pi kx}{L}}
$$
 with $c_k = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) e^{-\frac{2i\pi kx}{L}} dx$

Fourier series expansion

Odd and even functions

- If f is an even function, $b_k = 0 \quad \forall k > 1$ (i.e. $c_k = c_{-k} \quad \forall k$)
- If f is an odd function, $a_k = 0 \quad \forall k > 0$ (i.e. $c_k = -c_{-k} \quad \forall k$)

Pointwise convergence

If f is $C^1(0,L)$, then $F = f$ (note that some similar results exist which require less regularity for f)

Parseval's equality (conservation of energy)

If
$$
f \in L^2(0, L)
$$
, then $||f||_{L^2}^2 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L (f(x))^2 dx = a_0^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} (a_k^2 + b_k^2) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} |c_k|^2 = ||F||_{L^2}^2$

(even without pointwise convergence)

Fourier analysis

Exercise $#1$

1. Let the 1-D diffusion equation on a bounded domain

$$
\begin{cases}\n\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t) - \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x,t) = 0 & x \in (0,L), t > 0 \\
u(0,t) = u(L,t) = 0 & t > 0 \\
u(x,0) = u_0(x) & x \in (0,L)\n\end{cases}
$$

Solve this equation using a separation of variables technique.

2. Same question, replacing the boundary conditions $u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0$ with $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(0,t) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L,t) = 0.$

Fourier transform

Let f integrable on \mathbb{R} .

The **Fourier transform** of f is $FT[f](\xi) = \widehat{f}(\xi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) e^{-2i\pi \xi x} dx$

The inverse Fourier transform of \widehat{f} is $\quad FT^{-1}[\widehat{f}](x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \widehat{f}(\xi) \, \mathrm{e}^{2i\pi \xi x} \, d\xi$

Some properties of the Fourier transform

Reciprocity If $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ and if \widehat{f} is $L^1(\mathbb{R})$, then $FT^{-1}[\widehat{f}] = f$

Parseval's equality (conservation of energy) (R), then $\int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x)|^2 dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}}$ R $\left| \widehat{f}(\xi) \right|$ 2 dξ

Derivation \hat{f}

$$
\hat{f}(\xi) = 2i\pi\xi \,\hat{f}(\xi)
$$

Convolution $\widehat{f} \widehat{g} = \widehat{f * g}$ and $\widehat{f} * \widehat{g} = \widehat{fg}$ Reminder: convolution product $(a * b)(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} a(y) b(x - y) dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}} a(y) b(x - y) dy$ $\int_{\mathbb{R}} a(x-y) b(y) dy$

Some properties of the Fourier transform

Translation If $g(x) = f(x - x_0)$, then $\hat{g}(\xi) = e^{-2i\pi x_0\xi} \hat{f}(\xi)$

Gaussian functions

The Fourier transform of the Gaussian function $\exp(-\pi\alpha x^2)$ is the Gaussian function $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha}}\exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\right)$ $\left(\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\xi^2\right)$

Gate function The Fourier transform of the gate function $\Pi(x) = 1$ for $x \in (-1/2; 1/2)$ and 0 elsewhere is $sinc(\pi \xi)$ where sinc is the **sine cardinal function** defined by sinc $a = (sin a)/a$.

Filtering, smoothing

Convolutions with a Gaussian function

Exercise $#2$

- 1. Let consider the diffusion equation $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t) v \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$ $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x,t) = 0 \ \ (x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0, \nu > 0)$ with the initial condition $u(x, 0) = u_0(x)$. Solve this equation using a Fourier transform.
- 2. Same question with a source term: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t) \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$ $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x,t) = f(x,t)$ $(x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0, \nu > 0)$ with the initial condition $u(x, 0) = 0$.
- 3. Same question with an additional reaction term : ∂u $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t) - \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$ $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x,t) + r u(x,t) = 0$ $(x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0, v > 0, r > 0)$

Let the diffusion equation:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t) - \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x,t) = 0 & x > 0, \ t > 0 \\
u(0,t) = 0 & t > 0 \\
u(x,0) = u_0(x) & x > 0\n\end{cases}
$$

- 1. Solve this equation by extending u_0 on \mathbb{R}_- into an odd function.
- 2. Solve again the equation when the boundary condition at $x = 0$ is replaced by $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(0,t)=0.$

Exercise $#4$

The Airy equation, that appears for instance in biological fluid modeling, reads:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + k \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3} = 0 & x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0, \quad k \in \mathbb{R} \text{ given} \\
u(x, 0) = u_0(x) & x \in \mathbb{R}\n\end{cases}
$$

1. Using Fourier transform (assuming sufficient regularity), give the analytical expression of the solution $u(x, t)$ under the form of a convolution product.

2. Let the so-called Airy function:
\n
$$
A(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} \cos\left(sx + \frac{s^3}{3}\right) ds
$$
\nIt can be shown that $\hat{A}(\xi) = e^{\frac{i}{3}(2\pi\xi)^3}$ where $\hat{ }$ is the symbol of the Fourier transform.
\nWhat does the analytical expression of $u(x, t)$ become, as a

function of the Airy function A?

$$
Hint: \widehat{f(ax)} = \frac{1}{|a|} \widehat{f}\left(\frac{\xi}{a}\right)
$$

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