

REVIEW

FOURIER SERIES (CONTD.)

- f is a *piece-wise continuous* on $[a, b]$ if it can be broken into finitely many ‘pieces’ each of which is continuous. This kind of function can have ‘jumps’.
- Fourier convergence theorem: If f is piece-wise continuous on $[-L, L]$ and it is periodic with period $2L$ outside $[-L, L]$, then the Fourier series (evaluated at x) converges to $f(x)$ wherever f is continuous. Wherever f has a jump, the Fourier series converges to the midpoint of the jump.
- Even function: $f(-x) = f(x)$ Odd function: $f(-x) = -f(x)$
- If f is even on $[-L, L]$, the Fourier series will only have cosine terms (and the constant term since it is technically also a cosine term):

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

- If f is odd on $[-L, L]$, the Fourier series will only have sine terms:

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

- Other facts about even and odd functions:
 - Sums and differences of even (odd) functions are even (odd),
 - Product (or quotient) of two even functions (two odd functions) is even,
 - Product (or quotient) of an even and odd function is odd.
- If f is even on $[-L, L]$, then $\int_{-L}^L f(x)dx = 2 \int_0^L f(x)dx$.
If f is odd on $[-L, L]$, then $\int_{-L}^L f(x)dx = 0$.
- Periodic extensions of functions: Let $f(x)$ be defined on $[0, L]$

1. Even function with period $2L$:

$$f_{\text{even}} = \begin{cases} f(x) & 0 \leq x \leq L \\ f(-x) & -L \leq x < 0 \end{cases}$$

2. Odd function with period $2L$:

$$f_{\text{odd}} = \begin{cases} f(x) & 0 < x < L \\ 0 & x = 0, L \\ -f(-x) & -L < x < 0 \end{cases}$$

THE HEAT EQUATION

- The heat equation has the form:

$$\alpha^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

where α^2 is a constant called *thermal diffusivity*.

- At $t = 0$, we prescribe an *initial temperature distribution*:

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq L$$

and we also have a 2-point boundary condition in x :

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0.$$

- Separation of Variables: we make the guess that the solution to the above equation is of the form

$$u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$$

- Plugging in and solving the resulting 2-point boundary value problem gives

$$u_n(x, t) = e^{-n^2\pi^2\alpha^2t/L^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

- The general solution is an infinite series:

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n u_n(x, t)$$

where

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

PRACTICE PROBLEMS

1. Indicate whether the following functions are even, odd or neither:

(a) $\sin(x)$ on $[-\pi, \pi]$

(b) $\cos(x)$ on $[-\pi, \pi]$

(c) e^x on $[-5, 5]$

(d)

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

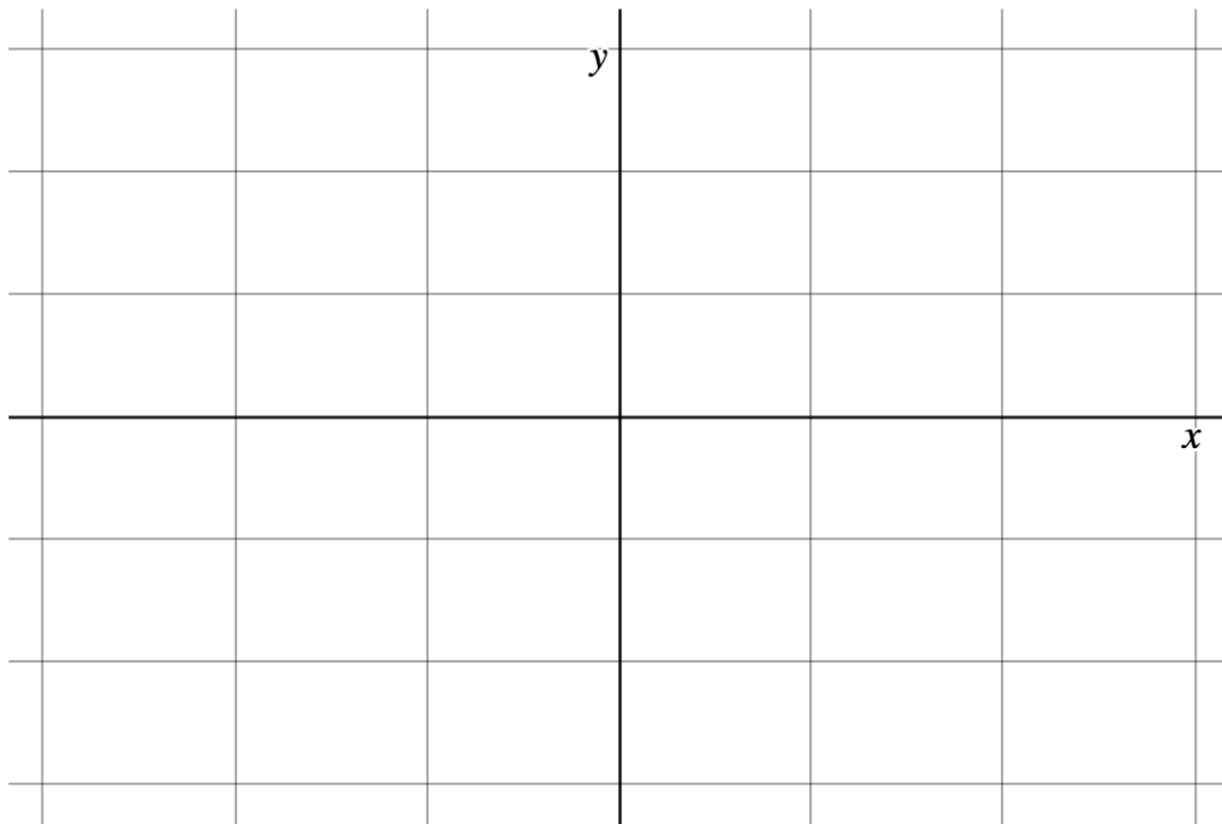
(e)

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

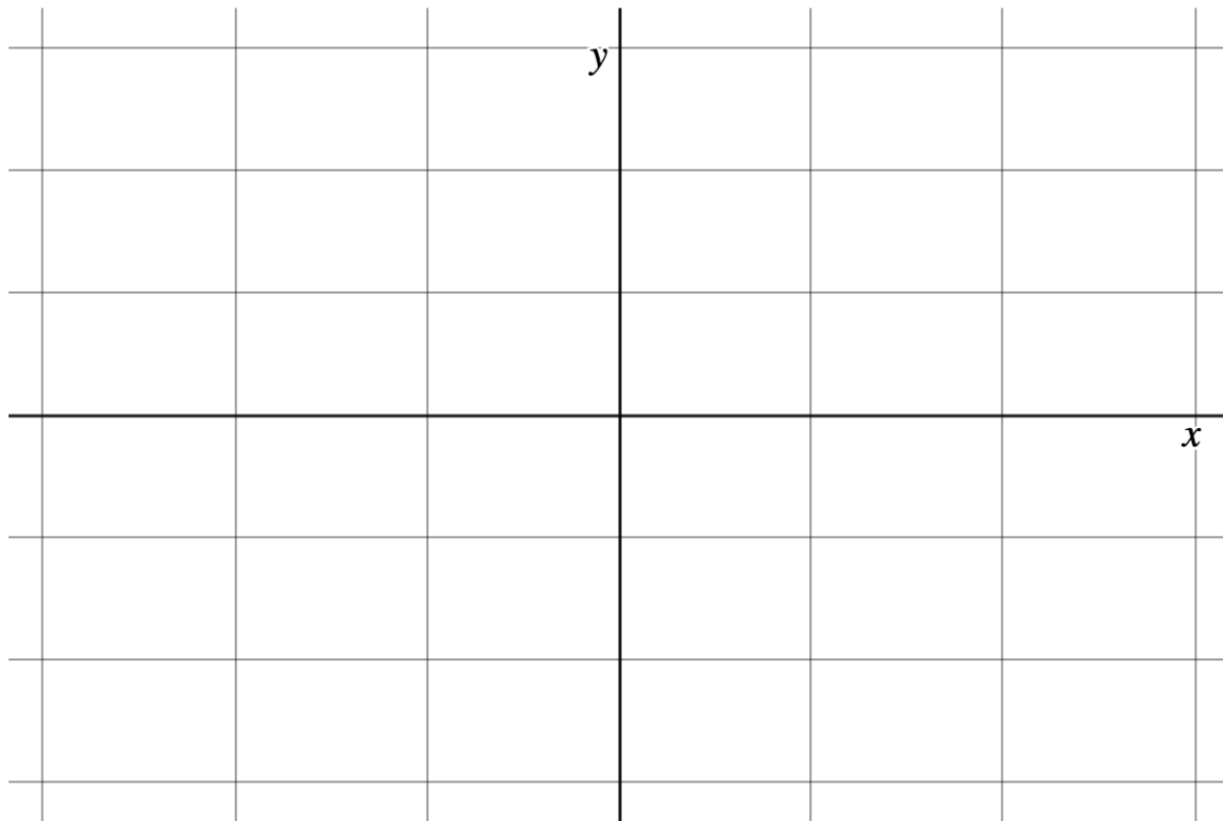
2. A function is defined on $[0, \pi]$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 \leq x \leq \pi/2 \\ 0 & \pi/2 < x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

(a) Sketch the **even** periodic extension of $f(x)$ on the interval $(-3\pi, 3\pi)$ on the axes below. Label important points on the x and y axes:



- (b) Sketch the **odd** periodic extension of $f(x)$ on the interval $(-3\pi, 3\pi)$ on the axes below. Label important points on the x and y axes:



- (c) Without doing any calculations, what value does the Fourier Cosine series of $f(x)$ converge to at $x = 3\pi/2$?

- (d) $f(x)$ can be written as a Fourier Sine series,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(nx).$$

Find the coefficients, b_n .

3. Heat equation with insulated ends:

Consider a thin pipe placed along the x -axis with ends at $x = 0$ and $x = \pi$. The pipe is filled with water and a small amount of a certain chemical. The chemical spreads (diffuses) through the pipe and the concentration of the chemical at location x and time t denoted $u(x, t)$ satisfies the equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

Initially the concentration has the following distribution

$$u(x, 0) = x \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi$$

The ends of the pipe are closed, so the chemical cannot escape. This can be written as

$$u_x(0, t) = 0 \quad u_x(\pi, t) = 0 \quad t \geq 0$$

(a) Assume that $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ and find ODEs satisfied by X and T .

(b) Use the boundary conditions for u to derive boundary conditions for $X(x)$.

(c) Solve the resulting eigenvalue problem for $X(x)$.

(d) For each eigenvalue you found, solve the corresponding ODE for T .

(e) Take linear combinations of all the fundamental solutions $u_n(x, t)$ to get the general solution $u(x, t)$ of this heat equation.

(f) Finally, use the initial condition to find the coefficients C_n .