

Math 54: Worksheet #24, Solutions

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Fall 2021

Problem 1 (True/False). The function $f(x) = \sin^2 x$ is an odd function.

Solution. **False.** We want to check if $f(-x) = -f(x)$ to see if the function is odd. Let us figure out what $f(-x)$ is:

$$f(-x) = \sin^2(-x) = (\sin(-x))^2 = (-\sin x)^2 = \sin^2 x = f(x),$$

where we use that $\sin(-x) = -\sin x$ since \sin is an odd function. We see that f isn't odd. Instead, it's actually even!

Problem 2 (True/False). The function $f(x) = x^2 + \cos x$ is an even function.

Solution. **True.** We want to check if $f(-x) = f(x)$ to see if the function is even. Let us figure out what $f(-x)$ is:

$$f(-x) = (-x)^2 + \cos(-x) = x^2 + \cos x = f(x),$$

where we use that $\cos(-x) = \cos x$ since \cos is an even function. Thus, f is even!

Problem 3. Check that:

$$\int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n, \\ L & \text{if } m = n \neq 0, \\ 2L & \text{if } m = n = 0. \end{cases}$$

Solution. The key to checking these is the following trig identity:

$$\cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \cos\left(\frac{(m-n)\pi x}{L}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \cos\left(\frac{(m+n)\pi x}{L}\right).$$

This allows us to integrate easily. First, if $m \neq n$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{(m-n)\pi x}{L}\right) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{(m+n)\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{L}{(m-n)\pi} \sin\left(\frac{(m-n)\pi x}{L}\right) \Big|_{-L}^L + \frac{1}{2} \frac{L}{(m+n)\pi} \sin\left(\frac{(m+n)\pi x}{L}\right) \Big|_{-L}^L \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{L}{(m-n)\pi} (0-0) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{L}{(m+n)\pi} (0-0) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where we use that, for example, $\sin((m-n)\pi) = 0$ since $m-n$ is an integer.

Second if $m = n \neq 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{(n-n)\pi x}{L}\right) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{(n+n)\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^L 1 dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(2L) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{L}{2n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) \Big|_{-L}^L = L + \frac{1}{2} \frac{L}{2n\pi} (0-0) = L. \end{aligned}$$

I'll let you check the case where $m = n = 0$. *Hint:* you don't need the trig identity for this one.

Problem 4 (10.3 #12-ish). Compute the Fourier series of

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0, \\ x^2, & 0 < x < \pi. \end{cases}$$

Determine the function that the Fourier series converges to.

Solution. Here, we notice that $L = \pi$. To compute the Fourier series, we want to compute the following:

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) \, dx, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \\ b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) \, dx, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

First, computing a_0 , we have that

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x^2 \, dx = \frac{x^3}{3\pi} \Big|_0^{\pi} = \frac{\pi^3}{3\pi} = \frac{\pi^2}{3}.$$

Then, for $n > 0$, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(nx) f(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \cos(nx) x^2 \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sin(nx) x^2 \right]_0^{\pi} - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{2}{n} \sin(nx) x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{n\pi} (0 - 0) + \left[\frac{2}{\pi n^2} \cos(nx) x \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \frac{2}{\pi n^2} \cos(nx) \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi n^2} ((-1)^n \pi - 0) - \left[\frac{2}{\pi n^3} \sin(nx) \right]_0^{\pi} \\ &= \frac{2(-1)^n}{n^2} - \frac{2}{\pi n^3} (0 - 0) = \frac{2(-1)^n}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Also, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(nx) f(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin(nx) x^2 \, dx = -\frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{n} \cos(nx) x^2 \right]_0^{\pi} + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{2}{n} \cos(nx) x \, dx \\ &= -\frac{1}{n\pi} ((-1)^n \pi^2 - 0) + \left[\frac{2}{\pi n^2} \sin(nx) x \right]_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \frac{2}{\pi n^2} \sin(nx) \, dx \\ &= \frac{(-1)^{n+1} \pi}{n} + \frac{2}{\pi n^2} (0 - 0) + \left[\frac{2}{\pi n^3} \cos(nx) \right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{(-1)^{n+1} \pi}{n} + \frac{2}{\pi n^3} ((-1)^n - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have that $f(x) \sim \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nx) + b_n \sin(nx))$.

To find the function that the Fourier Series converges to, we note that f is continuous on $(-\pi, \pi)$. Thus, on all the interior points, $FS(f)(x) = \frac{1}{2} (\lim_{t \rightarrow x^+} f(t) + \lim_{t \rightarrow x^-} f(t)) = f(x)$. For $x = \pm\pi$, we have $FS(f)(\pm\pi) = \frac{1}{2} (\lim_{t \rightarrow -\pi^+} f(t) + \lim_{t \rightarrow \pi^-} f(t)) = \frac{1}{2} (0 + \pi^2) = \frac{\pi^2}{2}$. Thus, we have that

$$FS(f)(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\pi^2}{2} & x = -\pi, \\ 0 & -\pi < x < 0 \\ x^2 & 0 \leq x < \pi \\ \frac{\pi^2}{2} & x = \pi. \end{cases}$$

Problem 5 (10.4 #2). Let $f(x) = \sin 2x$ for $0 < x < \pi$. Determine

- (a) the π -periodic extension \tilde{f} .
- (b) the odd 2π -periodic extension f_o .
- (c) the even 2π -periodic extension f_e .

Solution. (a) For the π -periodic extension, you just want to copy the function from $0 < x < \pi$ onto $-\pi < x < 0$. You can do this by just shifting the function left by π , which means using $f(x + \pi)$. Thus, we have that on $-\pi < x < 0$,

$$\tilde{f}(x) = \sin(2(x + \pi)) = \sin(2x + 2\pi) = \sin 2x.$$

Hence, $\tilde{f}(x) = \sin 2x$.

- (b) For the odd 2π -periodic extension, we want to let $f_o(x) = -f(-x)$ for $-\pi < x < 0$:

$$f_o(x) = -\sin(2(-x)) = -\sin(-2x) = \sin 2x,$$

since \sin is odd. Thus, we have $f_o(x) = \sin 2x$.

- (c) For the even 2π -periodic extension, we want to let $f_e(x) = f(-x)$ for $-\pi < x < 0$:

$$f_e(x) = \sin(2(-x)) = -\sin 2x,$$

since \sin is odd. Thus, we have

$$f_e(x) = \begin{cases} -\sin 2x, & -\pi < x < 0, \\ \sin 2x, & 0 \leq x < \pi. \end{cases}$$

Problem 6 (10.4 #6-ish). Compute the Fourier sine series and the Fourier cosine series for the function

$$f(x) = \cos x, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

Solution. Note, $L = \pi$. We first find the Fourier sine series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(nx)$, where

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \cos x \sin(nx) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \sin((n-1)x) + \frac{1}{2} \sin((n+1)x) \right] dx.$$

When $n = 1$, we have that

$$b_1 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \sin(0x) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(2x) \right] dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin 2x dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \cos 2x \right]_0^{\pi} = -\frac{1}{2\pi}(1 - 1) = 0.$$

When $n > 1$, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2} \sin((n-1)x) + \frac{1}{2} \sin((n+1)x) \right] dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\frac{1}{n-1} \cos((n-1)x) - \frac{1}{n+1} \cos((n+1)x) \right]_0^{\pi} \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\frac{1}{n-1}((-1)^{n-1} - 1) - \frac{1}{n+1}((-1)^{n+1} - 1) \right] = \begin{cases} 0, & n \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{2}{n-1} + \frac{2}{n+1} \right], & n \text{ is even.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

This gives us the Fourier sine series, $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{2}{2k-1} + \frac{2}{2k+1} \right] \sin(2kx)$. Here, we let $n = 2k$ because we only want even indices.

For the Fourier cosine series, we want to find a series of the form $\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(nx)$. However, $f(x) = \cos x$ is already of this form, with $a_1 = 1$ and all other $a_i = 0$. You could also go through the computation and find this.

Problem 7 (10.4 #18). Let $f(x) = x(\pi - x)$. Find the solution to the following heat flow problem

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= 5 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, & 0 < x < \pi, & \quad t > 0, \\ u(0, t) &= u(\pi, t) = 0, & t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x), & 0 < x < \pi.\end{aligned}$$

Solution. We are looking for a solution of the form $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n e^{-\beta(\frac{n\pi}{L})^2 t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$. Here, we know that

$\beta = 5$ and $L = \pi$. Thus, we want a solution of the form $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n e^{-5n^2 t} \sin(nx)$. At $t = 0$, we have that $u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \sin(nx)$, which we want to match to $f(x) = \pi x - x^2$. Thus, we want to find a Fourier sine series of f .

Here, we have that

$$\begin{aligned}c_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi x - x^2) \sin(nx) \, dx \\ &= -\frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{n} (\pi x - x^2) \cos(nx) \right]_0^{\pi} + \frac{2}{\pi n} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - 2x) \cos(nx) \, dx \\ &= -\frac{2}{\pi n} (0 - 0) + \frac{2}{\pi n^2} [(\pi - 2x) \sin(nx)]_0^{\pi} - \frac{2}{\pi n^2} \int_0^{\pi} (-2) \sin(nx) \, dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi n^2} (0 - 0) - \frac{4}{\pi n^3} \cos(nx) \Big|_0^{\pi} = -\frac{4}{\pi n^3} ((-1)^n - 1) = \begin{cases} \frac{8}{\pi n^3}, & n \text{ is odd,} \\ 0, & n \text{ is even.} \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

This gives us the coefficients c_n , so we can see that the solution is of the form

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{8}{\pi(2k+1)^3} e^{-5(2k+1)^2 t} \sin((2k+1)x).$$

We let $n = 2k + 1$ because we only want to include odd indices.