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## **FOURIER SERIES**

- **Evaluation of FS;**
- **ODEs (Forced Oscillations);**
- **PDEs: Heat Equation & FS.**

## **POWER SERIES**

- **Series Solution of DEs;**
- **Examples.**

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## Fourier Series and DEs.

### Forced oscillations:

$$my'' + cy' + ky = r(t).$$

If  $r(t)$  is a sine or cosine function and damping occurs ( $c > 0$ ), then steady state solution is a harmonic oscillation with period same as  $r(t)$ . If  $r(t)$  is not of this form, but has period  $p$ , the steady state solution is a superposition of harmonic oscillations of period  $np$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . If one of these is close to the resonant frequency, then the corresponding oscillation can be the dominant response of the system to the input  $r(t)$ .

### Example 1.

$$y'' + 0.04y' + 9y = r(t), \quad (1)$$

$$r(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{\pi}{4}t & \text{if } -\frac{\pi}{2} < t < \frac{\pi}{2}, \\ \frac{\pi}{4}(\pi - t) & \text{if } \frac{\pi}{2} < t < \frac{3\pi}{2}, \end{cases} \quad r(t+2\pi) = r(t).$$

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Represent  $r(t)$  by a FS

$$r(t) = \frac{1}{1^2} \sin t - \frac{1}{3^2} \sin 3t + \frac{1}{5^2} \sin 5t - \dots$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} \sin(2k-1)t}{(2k-1)^2}.$$

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  consider the DEs

$$y'' + 0.04y' + 9y = \frac{(-1)^{k+1} \sin(2k-1)t}{(2k-1)^2}. \quad (2)$$

The solution to (20) is the superposition of all the solutions to (21). From earlier work on forced oscillations, the steady state solution  $y_{2k-1}(t) = y_p(t)$  and is of the form

$$y_{2k-1}(t) = A_{2k-1} \cos(2k-1)t + B_{2k-1} \sin(2k-1)t$$

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where  $A_{2k-1}$ ,  $B_{2k-1}$  are undetermined coefficients. Substituting in (21),

$$\begin{aligned} (9 - (2k - 1)^2)A_{2k-1} + \frac{2k - 1}{25}B_{2k-1} &= 0 \\ -\frac{2k - 1}{25}A_{2k-1} + (9 - (2k - 1)^2)B_{2k-1} &= \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(2k - 1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Solving for  $A_{2k-1}$ ,  $B_{2k-1}$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} A_{2k-1} &= \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{25(2k - 1)D_{2k-1}}, \\ B_{2k-1} &= \frac{(-1)^{k+1}(9 - (2k - 1)^2)}{(2k - 1)^2D_{2k-1}}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$D_{2k-1} = [9 - (2k - 1)^2]^2 + \left[\frac{2k - 1}{25}\right]^2.$$

The amplitude of  $y_{2k-1}$  is

$$C_{2k-1} = \left[A_{2k-1}^2 + B_{2k-1}^2\right]^{1/2},$$

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which is

$$\left[ \frac{1}{[25(2k-1)D_{2k-1}]^2} + \frac{[9 - (2k-1)^2]^2}{(2k-1)^4 D_{2k-1}^2} \right]^{1/2} .$$

That is,

$$\frac{1}{(2k-1)^2 D_{2k-1}} \left[ \left[ \frac{2k-1}{25} \right]^2 + [9 - (2k-1)^2]^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\text{Hence, } C_{2k-1} = \frac{1}{(2k-1)^2 \sqrt{D_{2k-1}}} .$$

**Some numerical values:**

$$C_1 = 0.1250$$

$$C_3 = 0.9269$$

$$C_5 = 0.0025$$

$$C_7 = 0.0005$$

$$C_9 = 0.0002$$

The values of all  $C_{2k-1}$  are quite small, except for  $2k-1 = 3$ , when  $D_3$  is very small and  $C_3 = 0.9259$  is so large that it dominates the other harmonics.

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## Summary of steps.

$$y'' + by' + cy = r(t), \quad (*)$$

where  $r(t)$  is a periodic forcing term,  $r(t + 2L) = r(t)$ , and the plant is  $y'' + by' + cy = 0$ . What is the response of the system to the forcing term and what is the dominant frequency of the response?

- Expand  $r(t) = \sum r_k(t)$  in a FS.
- $y'' + by' + cy = r_k(t)$  has particular soln  $y_k(t)$ .
- Particular soln of (\*) is  $y_p = \sum y_k$ .
- Complete soln  $y = y_h + y_p$ .

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**#** If the plant is damped, this means that the particular solution  $\sum y_k$  is the steady state soln.

**#** There may be a harmonic  $r_p$  of the FS  $\sum r_k$  of the forcing term  $r(t)$  which is close to resonance with the plant – then  $y_p$  is the dominant response to the forcing term.

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**PDEs and Fourier Series.** A vibrating string of length  $L$  and fixed at both ends can be described by its displacement  $u(x, t)$  at time  $t$  and position  $x$  along the string. There are two independent variables  $x$  and  $t$  and instead of a DE we have a **Partial Differential Equation**. The displacement  $u(x, t)$  can be shown to satisfy a PDE

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad c^2 = \frac{T}{\rho},$$

called the **one-dimensional wave equation**.

**Boundary conditions:**

Since the string is fixed at ends  $x = 0$  and  $x = L$ ,

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

**Initial conditions:** With initial displacement  $f(x)$  and initial velocity  $g(x)$ ,

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} = g(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq L.$$

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**PROBLEM:** Solve the PDE satisfying the boundary and initial conditions.

- **Separation of Variables** gives two ODEs, one in  $t$  and the other in  $x$ ;
- Solve these ODEs to satisfy the **boundary conditions**;
- Using **Fourier Series** the solutions are superposed to obtain a solution of the wave equation satisfying the **initial conditions**.

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**Separation of variables** looks for a solution as a product with the variables “separated”:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x, t) &= F(x)G(t). \\
 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} &= F\ddot{G}, & \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= F''G \\
 F\ddot{G} &= c^2 F''G \\
 \frac{\ddot{G}}{c^2 G} &= \frac{F''}{F} = k.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now both sides must be **constant**  $k$  because LHS is a function of  $t$  only and the RHS a function only of  $x$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 F'' - kF &= 0 \\
 \ddot{G} - c^2 kG &= 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Boundary conditions:** For all  $t$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(0, t) &= F(0)G(t) = 0, \\
 u(L, t) &= F(L)G(t) = 0. \\
 G \neq 0 &\Rightarrow F(0) = 0, \quad F(L) = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Solving for  $F$ : now,  $k = 0$  gives  $F'' = 0 \Rightarrow F = ax + b$ . Hence  $a = b = 0$  and  $F \equiv 0$ ,  $u = 0$ .

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For  $k = \mu^2 > 0$ ,  $F = Ae^{\mu x} + Be^{-\mu x}$  and  $F \equiv 0$  again. So the only interesting possibility is if  $k = -p^2 < 0$ .

$$F'' + p^2 F = 0,$$

$$F(x) = A \cos px + B \sin px$$

$$F(0) = A = 0, \quad F(L) = B \sin pL = 0,$$

$$\sin pL = 0 \Rightarrow p = \frac{n\pi}{L}$$

$$F_n(x) = \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Now solve for  $G$  with  $k = -p^2 = -(n\pi/L)^2$

$$\ddot{G} + \lambda_n^2 G = 0, \quad \lambda_n = \frac{cn\pi}{L},$$

$$G_n(t) = B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t.$$

So the functions  $u_n(x, t) = F_n(x)G_n(t)$ ,

$$u_n(x, t) = (B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x,$$

$n = 1, 2, \dots$ , are solutions of the PDE satisfying the boundary conditions. These are the **eigenfunctions** and  $\lambda_n = cn\pi/L$  are the **eigenvalues** of the problem.

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A single  $u_n(x, t)$  will not satisfy the initial conditions in general. However, the sum of the  $u_n$  is also a solution of the wave eqn:

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x, t) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x, \\ u(x, 0) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x = f(x). \end{aligned}$$

Choose the  $B_n$  so that  $u(x, 0)$  is the Fourier sine series of  $f(x)$ :

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

Similarly, differentiating  $u$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n^* \lambda_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} = g(x) \\ B_n^* \lambda_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ B_n^* &= \frac{2}{cn\pi} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx. \end{aligned}$$

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In particular, if  $u_t(x, 0) = 0$ , that is,  $g(x) = 0$ , then  $B_n^* = 0$  and

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \cos \lambda_n t \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} .$$

**Example.** Find the displacement  $u(x, t)$  of the vibrating string of length  $L = \pi$  with fixed ends and  $c^2 = 1$ , whose initial velocity is zero and initial displacement is given by  $f(x)$  as shown.

Since initial velocity  $g(x) = 0$ ,  $B_n^* = 0$  and the solution is

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \cos \lambda_n t \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

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Because  $c = 1$ ,  $L = \pi$ ,  $\lambda_n = cn\pi/L = n$  and

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \cos nt \sin nx.$$

The  $B_n$  are the Fourier sine coefficients for the half-range expansion of  $f(x)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} B_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left\{ \int_0^1 x \sin nx \, dx \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{\pi - 1} \int_1^{\pi} (\pi - x) \sin nx \, dx \right\} \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \frac{-1}{n} \cos n + \frac{1}{n^2} \sin n \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{2}{\pi(\pi - 1)} \left[ \frac{\pi - 1}{n} \cos n + \frac{1}{n^2} \sin n \right] \\ &= \frac{2 \sin n}{(\pi - 1)n^2} \\ u(x, t) &= \frac{2}{\pi - 1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin n}{n^2} \cos nt \sin nx. \end{aligned}$$

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## Series Solution of DEs.

In the general case

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0,$$

the solutions might be nonelementary functions which are **special functions**: Legendre polynomials, Bessel functions, etc. These are solved by using power series. Express  $p(t)$ ,  $q(t)$  as power series in  $t$  or  $t - t_0$ . Assume a solution, convergent in  $|t| < R$ ,

$$y = a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2 + \dots = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_m t^m$$

$$y' = a_1 + 2a_2t + 3a_3t^2 + \dots = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} m a_m t^{m-1}$$

$$y'' = 2a_2 + 6a_3t + \dots = \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} m(m-1)a_m t^{m-2}$$

and substitute these into the DE. Collect powers of  $t$  and equate sum of coefficients of like powers to zero. This gives recurrence relations which can be solved for the  $a_m$ .

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**Example 1:**  $y'' - y = 0$ .

Substituting the series into the equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(2a_2 + 3 \cdot 2a_3t + 4 \cdot 3a_4t^2 + \dots) \\
 &\quad - (a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2 + \dots) = 0 \\
 &2a_2 - a_0 + (3 \cdot 2a_3 - a_1)t \\
 &\quad + (4 \cdot 3a_4 - a_2)t^2 + \dots \\
 &+ [(m+2)(m+1)a_{m+2} - a_m]t^m + \dots = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$2a_2 - a_0 = 0$$

$$3 \cdot 2a_3 - a_1 = 0$$

$$4 \cdot 3a_4 - a_2 = 0, \dots$$

$$(m+2)(m+1)a_{m+2} - a_m = 0, \dots$$

So  $a_2, a_4, \dots$  can be expressed in terms of  $a_0$ , and  $a_3, a_5, \dots$  in terms of  $a_1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_2 &= \frac{a_0}{2!}, & a_4 &= \frac{a_2}{4 \cdot 3} = \frac{a_0}{4!}, \dots \\
 a_3 &= \frac{a_1}{3!}, & a_5 &= \frac{a_3}{5 \cdot 4} = \frac{a_1}{5!}, \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

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So the series is

$$y = a_0 + a_1 t + \frac{a_0}{2!} t^2 + \frac{a_1}{3!} t^3 + \frac{a_0}{4!} t^4 + \dots$$

This can be written as  $y = y_1 + y_2$ , where

$$y_1 = a_0 \left( 1 + \frac{t^2}{2!} + \frac{t^4}{4!} + \dots \right) = a_0 \cosh t$$

$$y_2 = a_1 \left( t + \frac{t^3}{3!} + \frac{t^5}{5!} + \dots \right) = a_1 \sinh t$$

$$y = a_0 \cosh t + a_1 \sinh t.$$

We saw earlier that  $e^t$ ,  $e^{-t}$  is a basis of solutions of this DE, but so also are

$$\frac{e^t + e^{-t}}{2} = \cosh t, \quad \frac{e^t - e^{-t}}{2} = \sinh t.$$

Both these series converge for  $|t| < \infty$ , because, for  $\cosh t$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{2m}}{a_{2m+2}} \right| \\ &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (2m+2)(2m+1) = \infty, \end{aligned}$$

and similarly for  $\sinh t$ . (Ratio Test)

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**Example.**  $y'' + ty' + 2y = 0.$

$$y = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_m t^m,$$

$$ty' = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} m a_m t^m,$$

$$y'' = \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} m(m-1) a_m t^{m-2}.$$

Substituting these into the DE,

$$\sum_{m=2}^{\infty} m(m-1) a_m t^{m-2} + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} [m a_m + 2a_m] t^m.$$

$$2a_2 + 2a_0 = 0, \quad 12a_4 + 2a_2 + 2a_2 = 0, \dots$$

$$12a_4 + 2a_2 + 2a_2 = 0, \quad 20a_5 + 3a_3 + 2a_3 = 0, \dots$$

and for general  $m$ ,

$$(m+1)(m+2)a_{m+2} + m a_m + 2a_m = 0.$$

So, solving for  $a_{m+2}$ ,

$$a_{m+2} = -\frac{1}{m+1} a_m, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

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Taking even  $k = 0, 2, 4, \dots$ ,

$$a_2 = -\frac{a_0}{1}, \quad a_4 = -\frac{a_2}{3} = \frac{a_0}{1 \cdot 3}, \dots$$

$$a_{2k} = (-1)^k \frac{a_0}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (2k-1)}, \dots$$

Taking odd  $k = 1, 3, 5, \dots$ ,

$$a_3 = -\frac{a_1}{2}, \quad a_5 = -\frac{a_3}{4} = \frac{a_1}{2 \cdot 4}, \dots$$

$$a_{2k+1} = (-1)^k \frac{a_1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot (2k)}, \dots$$

Hence,

$$y(t) = a_0 \left[ 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (2k-1)} t^{2k} \right] + a_1 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot (2k)} t^{2k+1}.$$

Both series converge for all  $t$ . For example, in the second series,

$$R = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{2k+1}}{a_{2k+3}} \right| = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 2(k+1) = \infty.$$

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