

## LECTURE NOTES ON FOURIER SERIES

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**Introduction:** In 1807, Fourier astounded some of his contemporaries by asserting that an "arbitrary" function could be expressed as a linear combination of sines and cosines. These linear combinations, now called **Fourier series**, have become an indispensable tool in the analysis of certain periodical phenomena (such as vibrations, and planetary and wave motion) which are studied in Physics and Engineering.

**1.1 DEFINITION:** A *trigonometric series* is of the form  $\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}(a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$  where the co-efficients  $a_0, a_n, b_n$  are constants.

It can be shown that every periodic function of  $x$  satisfying certain very general conditions can be represented in the above form.

**1.2 DEFINITION:** Let  $f : [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded function and  $P = \{-\pi = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n = \pi\}$  be a partition of  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . For any points  $x_i \in [t_{i-1}, t_i]$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ )  $S(P, f) = \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i)(t_i - t_{i-1})$  is called Riemann sum of the function  $f$ . If  $\lim_{||P|| \rightarrow 0} S(P, f)$  is finite then  $f$  is said to be Riemann integrable on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  and the finite limit is denoted by  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f$ . We call  $f$  is integrable on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  when it is Riemann integrable on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

**1.3 DEFINITION:** Let  $f : [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be unbounded in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  and there are finite number of points  $-\pi = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n = \pi$  such that  $f$  is bounded and integrable in every closed sub interval contained in each open interval  $(t_{i-1}, t_i)$ . If  $\lim_{\delta_i \rightarrow 0} \int_{t_{i-1}+\delta_i}^{t_i-\delta_i} |f|$  exists finitely for each  $i$  then  $f$  is said to be absolutely convergent in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

**1.4 DEFINITION:** Let  $f : [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an integrable function on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  or if unbounded on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  let the improper integral  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)dx$  be absolutely convergent. Then the trigonometric series  $\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}(a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$  is called the Fourier series in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  corresponding to the function  $f$ , where  $a_0, a_n, b_n$ , called Fourier co-efficients, are given by  $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)dx$ ,  $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx$ ,  $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx$   $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**1.5 THEOREM:** Suppose  $f : [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an integrable function on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  or if unbounded on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  let the improper integral  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)dx$  be absolutely convergent. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $S_n(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^n (a_k \cos kx + b_k \sin kx)$  be the  $n$ th partial sum of the Fourier series and  $T_n(x) = \frac{c_0}{2} +$

$\sum_{k=0}^n (c_k \cos kx + d_k \sin kx)$  be the  $n$ th partial sum of any trigonometric series. Then  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (f - S_n)^2 \leq \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (f - T_n)^2$ . Equality holds if and only if  $a_k = c_k$  and  $b_k = d_k$  for all  $k$ .

(That is to say among all functions  $T_n$ ,  $S_n$  will give the best possible mean square approximation to  $f$ .)

### 1.6 Worked out examples:

#### 1.6.1 Find the Fourier series of $f(x) = x, x \in [-\pi, \pi]$

**Ans:** Since  $f$  is continuous on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  it is bounded and integrable on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Then the Fourier series of  $f$  in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  is  $\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$

Where  $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = 0$  (since  $f$  is odd)

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = 0 \text{ (since } f \text{ is odd)}$$

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

Hence the Fourier series for  $f$  in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  is  $2 \left[ \frac{\sin x}{1} - \frac{\sin 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} - \dots \right]$ .

1.7 Dirichlet's conditions : A real valued function  $f$  in  $[a, b]$  is said to satisfy Dirichlet's condition if either

1)  $f$  is bounded in  $[a, b]$  and piecewise monotone in  $[a, b]$  i.e. the interval can be broken up into a finite number of open subintervals in each of which  $f$  is monotonic,

Or, 2)  $f$  has finite number of points of infinite discontinuity in  $[a, b]$ , but when arbitrary small neighbourhoods of these points of discontinuity are excluded,  $f(x)$  is bounded in the remainder of the interval and in each remaining interval  $f$  is piecewise monotone and  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  is absolutely convergent.

**1.8 THEOREM:** If  $f$  is a periodic function of period  $2\pi$  and satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ , then at  $x = c$  the Fourier series  $\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$  converges to  $\frac{1}{2}\{f(c-0) + f(c+0)\}$  for  $-\pi < c < \pi$ ; and to  $\frac{1}{2}\{f(\pi-0) + f(-\pi+0)\}$  for  $c = \pm\pi$ .

### 1.9 Worked out examples:

**1.9.1. Obtain the Fourier series expansion of the function  $f(x) = x \sin x$  on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Hence deduce that**

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{1.3} - \frac{1}{3.5} + \frac{1}{5.7} - \dots$$

**Ans.** Here  $f$  is bounded and integrable in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . So the Fourier series expansion for  $f(x)$  is

$$\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}(a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx) \quad \text{where } a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin x dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \{ [-x \cos x]_0^{\pi} + \int_0^{\pi} \cos x dx \} = \frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \pi = 2;$$

$$\text{for } n \in \mathbb{N}, a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin x \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x(\sin(n+1)x - \sin(n-1)x) dx =$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ -\frac{x \cos 2x}{2} \right]_0^{\pi} + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} \cos 2x dx \right\} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{ if } n = 1 \\ \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ \frac{x \cos(n-1)x}{n-1} - x \frac{\cos(n+1)x}{n+1} \right]_0^{\pi} + \int_0^{\pi} \left[ \frac{\cos(n+1)x}{n+1} - \frac{\cos(n-1)x}{n-1} \right] dx \right\} = (-1)^{n-1} \left[ \frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right] = \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 2}{n^2-1} \text{ if } n \neq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } n \in \mathbb{N}, b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx = 0 \text{ (Since } f(x) \sin nx \text{ is an odd function).}$$

Hence the Fourier series corresponding to  $f$  in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  is

$$f(x) \sim 1 - \frac{1}{2} \cos x + 2 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n^2-1} \cos nx.$$

Here  $f$  is an even function, so  $f'$  is an odd function. Hence  $f'$  is symmetric about origin.

Now  $f'(x) = \sin x + x \cos x > 0$  in  $(0, \frac{\pi}{2})$  and  $< 0$  in  $(\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi)$ . Hence  $f$  is piecewise monotone in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . So  $f$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Since  $f$  is continuous at  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,

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

$$\therefore \frac{\pi}{2} = 1 + \frac{2}{2^2-1} - \frac{2}{4^2-1} + \frac{2}{6^2-1} - \dots$$

$$\text{This implies } \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{1.3} - \frac{1}{3.5} + \frac{1}{5.7} - \dots$$

**1.9.2. Find the Fourier series of  $f$  where  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x - \pi & \text{if } -\pi < x < 0 \\ \pi - x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$**

**Ans.** Here  $f$  is bounded and integrable in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . So the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  is

$$\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}(a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx) \quad \text{where } a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_{-\pi}^0 (x - \pi) dx + \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - x) dx \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} - \pi x \right]_{-\pi}^0 + \left[ \pi x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^{\pi} \right\} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( -\frac{3\pi^2}{2} + \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right) = -\pi$$

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

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

So the Fourier series of  $f(x)$  is  $f(x) \sim -\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{4}{\pi} \left( \frac{\cos x}{1^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} + \dots \right) + 4 \left( \frac{\sin x}{1} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} + \dots \right)$

### 1.9.3 Obtain the Fourier series expansion of $f(x)$ in $[-\pi, \pi]$ where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & -\pi \leq x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{4}\pi x & 0 \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases} \cdot \text{Hence show that } 1 + \frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{2}{5^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{8}$$

**Ans.** Hints.  $a_0 = \frac{\pi^2}{8}, a_n = \frac{1}{4n^2} ((-1)^n - 1), b_n = -\frac{\pi}{4n} (-1)^n$

The Fourier series expansion of  $f(x)$  in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  is  $\frac{\pi^2}{16} - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\cos x}{1^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} + \frac{\cos 5x}{5^2} + \dots \right] + \frac{\pi}{4} \left[ \frac{\sin x}{1} - \frac{\sin 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} - \dots \right]$ . The function  $f$  is bounded and monotonic in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . So  $f$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Also  $f$  is continuous at 0. So  $f(0) = \frac{\pi^2}{16} - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right]$

### 1.9.4. Find the Fourier series expansion of periodic function $f(x)$ with period $2\pi$ defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < a\pi \\ 1, & a \leq x \leq b. \text{ Find the sum of the series for } x = 4\pi + a \text{ and deduce that} \\ 0, & b < x < \pi \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin n(b-a)}{n} = \frac{\pi - b + a}{2}.$$

**Ans.** Hints. Define  $f$  at  $x = \pi$  and at  $x = -\pi$  as  $f(-\pi) = 0 = f(\pi)$

The function  $f$  is bounded and integrable in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . The Fourier series of  $f(x)$  is  $\frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$  where  $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} (b - a)$ ,  $a_n = \frac{1}{n\pi} [\sin nb - \sin na]$ ,  $b_n = \frac{1}{n\pi} [\cos na - \cos nb]$ . The Fourier series of  $f(x)$  is  $\frac{1}{2\pi} (b - a) + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} [(\sin nb - \sin na) \cos nx + (\cos na - \cos nb) \sin nx] \right)$ .

Here  $f$  is piecewise monotone and bounded in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . So  $f$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Since  $f$  is periodic function of period  $2\pi$ , so  $f(4\pi + a) = f(a)$ . Now the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  converges at  $x = 4\pi + a$  to  $\frac{1}{2} [f(a+0) + f(a-0)] = \frac{1}{2}$ . That is the sum of the series at  $x = 4\pi + a$  is  $\frac{1}{2}$

At  $x=b$ , the Fourier series converges to  $\frac{1}{2}[f(b+0) + f(b-0)] = \frac{1}{2}$ . Hence  $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{b-a}{2\pi} + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin n(b-a)}{n}$ . So  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin n(b-a)}{n} = \frac{\pi-b+a}{2}$ .

**1.9.5 Let  $f: [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined as follows:  $f(x) = \begin{cases} -\cos x, & -\pi \leq x < 0 \\ \cos x, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$ . Obtain the Fourier series for the function  $f(x)$ . Hence find the sum of the series  $\frac{2}{1.3} - \frac{6}{5.7} + \frac{10}{9.11} - \dots$**

**Ans.** Hints.  $a_0 = 0, a_n = 0, b_n = \frac{1-4n}{n^2-1}$  if  $n$  is even  $b_n = 0$  if  $n$  is odd. At  $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$  the sum of the series is  $\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$

**1.9.6. Show that the even function  $f(x) =$**

**$|x|$  has a Fourier cosine series in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  of the form  $\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{\cos x}{1^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} + \frac{\cos 5x}{5^2} + \dots \right\}$ . Hence show that  $\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{8}$ .**

**1.9.7. Prove that the odd function  $f(x) = e^x - e^{-x}, x \in$**

**$[-\pi, \pi]$  has a Fourier sine series of the form  $\frac{4(\sinh \pi)}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\sin x}{1^2+1} - \frac{2(\sin 2x)}{2^2+1} + \dots \right]$ . Hence show that  $\frac{1}{1^2+1} - \frac{3}{3^2+1} + \frac{5}{5^2+1} + \dots = \pi/(4 \cosh \frac{\pi}{2})$**

**Fourier sine and cosine series:**

**If  $f$  is a real valued function on  $[0, \pi]$  which is bounded and integrable then the series of the form  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$  is called a Fourier sine series, if  $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx$ . And the series of the form  $\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx$  is called a Fourier cosine series, if  $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx$ .**

**1.9.8. The function  $f$  is defined for  $0 < x < 2\pi$  as  $f(x) = \begin{cases} (x-\pi)^2 & \text{when } 0 < x < \pi, \\ \pi^2, & \text{when } \pi \leq x \leq 2\pi. \end{cases}$  Hence deduce the value of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ .**

**Ans.** Defining  $f(0) = \pi^2$ , here  $f$  is bounded and integrable in  $[0, 2\pi]$ . So the Fourier series for  $f(x)$  is  $\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$

Where  $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_0^{\pi} (x-\pi)^2 \, dx + \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} \pi^2 \, dx \right] = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \left[ \frac{(x-\pi)^3}{3} \right]_0^{\pi} + [\pi^2 x]_{\pi}^{2\pi} \right] = \frac{4}{3} \pi^2$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \int_0^{\pi} (x-\pi)^2 \cos nx \, dx + \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} \pi^2 \cos nx \, dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{n} (x-\pi)^2 \sin nx \right]_0^{\pi} - 2/n \int_0^{\pi} (x-\pi) \sin nx \, dx \right\} = -\frac{2}{n^2 \pi} \left\{ [-(x-\pi) \cos nx]_0^{\pi} + \int_0^{\pi} \cos nx \, dx \right\} = \frac{2}{n^2}$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \int_0^\pi (x - \pi)^2 \sin nx \, dx + \int_\pi^{2\pi} (\pi)^2 \sin nx \, dx \right\} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ -\frac{(x-\pi)^2}{n} \cos nx \right]_0^\pi + \frac{2}{n} \int_0^\pi (x - \pi) \cos nx \, dx - \frac{\pi^2 (\cos nx)}{n} \Big|_\pi^{2\pi} \right\} = \frac{1}{n\pi} \left\{ (-1)^n \pi^2 + \frac{2}{n^2} [\cos nx]_0^\pi \right\} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{(-1)^n \pi^2}{n} - \frac{2}{n^3} (1 - (-1)^n) \right].$$
 Hence the Fourier series of  $f(x)$  in  $[0, 2\pi]$  is  $\frac{2}{3} \pi^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n^2} \cos nx + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{(-1)^n \pi^2}{n} - \frac{2}{n^3} (1 - (-1)^n) \right] \sin nx$ .

Here  $f$  is monotonically decreasing in  $[0, \pi]$  and monotonically increasing in  $[\pi, 2\pi]$  (constant function in  $[\pi, 2\pi]$ ). So  $f$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in  $[0, 2\pi]$ . At  $x = 0$ , the Fourier series converges to  $\frac{1}{2} [f(0+0) + f(2\pi - 0)]$ . Thus  $\pi^2 = \frac{2}{3} \pi^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n^2}$ . That is  $\frac{\pi^2}{6} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ .

**1.9.9. Find the Fourier cosine series for the function  $f$  defined for  $0 \leq x \leq \pi$  as  $f(x) =$**

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\pi}{3}, & 0 \leq x < \frac{\pi}{3} \\ 0, & \frac{\pi}{3} < x < \frac{2\pi}{3} \\ -\frac{\pi}{3}, & \frac{2\pi}{3} < x \leq \pi \end{cases} \text{ and } f\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = \frac{\pi}{12}, f\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = -\frac{\pi}{12}. \text{ Find the sum of the series for}$$

**$x = \frac{\pi}{3}$  and deduce that  $1 - \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{11} + \frac{1}{13} - \frac{1}{17} + \dots = \pi/2\sqrt{3}$ .**

**Ans.** Here  $f$  is bounded and integrable in  $[0, \pi]$ . So the Fourier cosine series for  $f$  is  $\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx$ .

$$\text{Where } a_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi f(x) \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left\{ \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\pi}{3} \, dx + \int_{\frac{\pi}{3}}^{\frac{2\pi}{3}} \left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \, dx \right\} = \frac{2}{3} \left\{ \frac{\pi}{3} - \frac{\pi}{3} \right\} = 0.$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi f(x) \cos nx \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left\{ \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\pi}{3} \cos nx \, dx - \int_{\frac{\pi}{3}}^{\frac{2\pi}{3}} \frac{\pi}{3} \cos nx \, dx \right\} = \frac{2}{3n} \left\{ [\sin nx]_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} - [\sin nx]_{\frac{\pi}{3}}^{\frac{2\pi}{3}} \right\} = \frac{2}{3n} \left( \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} + \sin \frac{2n\pi}{3} \right) = \frac{4}{3n} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \cos \frac{n\pi}{6}, \text{ which is nonzero only when } n \text{ is odd but not a multiple of } 3.$$

$$\text{So the Fourier cosine series for the function } f(x) \text{ is } \frac{4}{3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \cos \frac{n\pi}{6} \cos nx = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \left[ \frac{\cos x}{1} - \frac{\cos 5x}{5} + \frac{\cos 7x}{7} - \frac{\cos 11x}{11} + \dots \right]$$

Here  $f$  is bounded and monotonically decreasing in the interval  $[0, \pi]$ . Thus  $f$  satisfies Dirichlet's condition in  $[0, \pi]$ . Also  $f$  is continuous at 0. So at  $x=0$ , the series converges to  $f(0)$ . Thus  $\frac{\pi}{3} =$

$$\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{11} + \dots \right). \text{ This implies } \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{3}} = 1 - \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{11} + \dots$$

**1.9.10. Prove that for  $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ ,  $x(\pi - x) = \frac{8}{\pi} \left( \frac{\sin x}{1^3} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3^3} + \frac{\sin 5x}{5^3} + \dots \right)$ . Hence deduce that  $x =$**

$$\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left( \frac{\cos x}{1^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} + \frac{\cos 5x}{5^2} + \frac{\cos 7x}{7^2} + \dots \right), \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi.$$

**Answer:** Suppose  $f(x) = x(\pi - x)$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ .

Then the Fourier sine series of  $f(x)$  in  $[0, \pi]$  is  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$ ,

$$\text{where } b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi f(x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi x(\pi - x) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left\{ \left[ -\frac{x(\pi-x)}{n} \cos nx \right]_0^\pi + \frac{1}{n} \int_0^\pi (\pi - 2x) \cos nx \, dx \right\} = \frac{2}{n^2\pi} \left\{ [(\pi - 2x) \sin nx]_0^\pi + 2 \int_0^\pi \sin nx \, dx \right\} = \frac{4}{n^2\pi} \left[ -\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right]_0^\pi = \frac{4}{n^3\pi} [1 - (-1)^n].$$

So the Fourier sine series of  $f(x)$  is  $\frac{8}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{\sin x}{1^3} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3^3} + \frac{\sin 5x}{5^3} + \dots \right\}$ .

Here  $f$  is continuous in  $[0, \pi]$ , so it is bounded in  $[0, \pi]$ . Also  $f$  is monotonically increasing in  $\left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$  and monotonically decreasing in  $\left[\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi\right]$ . So  $f$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in  $[0, \pi]$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous in  $[0, \pi]$ ,  $x(\pi - x) = \frac{8}{\pi} \left( \frac{\sin x}{1^3} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3^3} + \frac{\sin 5x}{5^3} + \dots \right)$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ .

The last part will be proved later in Chapter SEQUENCE and SERIES of FUNCTIONS.

**1.9.11. Find the Fourier series of the periodic function  $f$  with period  $2\pi$  defined by  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi \leq x \leq 0 \\ e^x, & 0 < x \leq \pi \end{cases}$ .**

**Ans.** Here  $f$  is bounded and integrable in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . So the Fourier series of  $f(x)$  is  $\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$  where  $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi e^x \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} (e^\pi - 1)$ ,  $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi e^x \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \{ [e^x \cos nx]_0^\pi + n \int_0^\pi e^x \sin nx \, dx \} = \frac{1}{\pi} \{ (-1)^n e^\pi - 1 - n^2 \int_0^\pi e^x \cos nx \, dx \}$ .

$$\therefore a_n = \frac{1}{\pi(1+n^2)} \{ (-1)^n e^\pi - 1 \}.$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi e^x \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \{ [e^x \sin nx]_0^\pi - n \int_0^\pi e^x \cos nx \, dx \} = -\frac{n}{\pi} \{ [e^x \cos nx]_0^\pi + n \int_0^\pi e^x \sin nx \, dx \} =$$

$$-\frac{n}{\pi} \{ (-1)^n e^\pi - 1 + n b_n \}.$$

$$\therefore b_n = \frac{-n}{\pi(1+n^2)} \{ (-1)^n e^\pi - 1 \}. \text{ So the Fourier series of } f \text{ in } [-\pi, \pi] \text{ is } f(x) \sim \frac{1}{2\pi} (e^\pi - 1) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi(1+n^2)} \{ (-1)^n e^\pi - 1 \} \cos nx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{-n}{\pi(1+n^2)} \{ (-1)^n e^\pi - 1 \} \sin nx.$$

**1.9.12. Show that if  $0 < x < \pi$ ,  $\pi - x = \frac{\pi}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\sin 2nx) /$**

**$n$ . Show that the equation does not hold for  $x = 0$  and  $x = \pi$ . Explain why it does not hold.**

**1.10 BESSEL'S INEQUALITY:** If  $f : [-\pi, \pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous except for a finite number of jump discontinuity and is periodic of period  $2\pi$  then  $\frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) \leq \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f^2(x) \, dx$ , where  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  are Fourier coefficients.

**Corollary:** If  $f$  satisfies the stated conditions, then  $\frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2)$  is convergent.

**1.11 PARSEVAL'S IDENTITY:** If  $a_n, b_n$  are Fourier coefficients of  $f$  in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ , then  $\frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f^2(x) dx$ .

**1.12.1 Examples :** The series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin nx$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin nx}{\sqrt{n}}$  are not Fourier series of Riemann integrable function in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  as  $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} b_n^2$  is divergent.

**1.12.2 Example:** Examine whether the trigonometric series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin nx}{n^2}$  is a Fourier series in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

**Answer:** Here  $a_n = 0$  and  $b_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ . Since the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4}$  is a convergent series so the given series is a Fourier series of some Riemann integrable function in  $[-\pi, \pi]$