# Boundary Value Problems (Sect. 10.1).

- Two-point BVP.
- Example from physics.
- Comparison: IVP vs BVP.
- Existence, uniqueness of solutions to BVP.
- ▶ Particular case of BVP: Eigenvalue-eigenfunction problem.

#### Definition

A *two-point BVP* is the following: Given functions p, q, g, and constants  $x_1 < x_2, y_1, y_2, b_1, b_2, \tilde{b}_1, \tilde{b}_2,$ 

find a function y solution of the differential equation

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = g(x),$$

together with the extra, boundary conditions,

$$b_1 y(x_1) + b_2 y'(x_1) = y_1,$$

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#### Remarks:

- ▶ Both y and y' might appear in the boundary condition, evaluated at the same point.
- ▶ In this notes we only study the case of constant coefficients,

$$y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = g(x).$$

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Examples of BVP.

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### Example from physics.

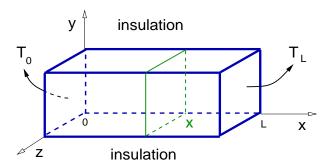
Problem: The equilibrium (time independent) temperature of a bar of length L with insulated horizontal sides and the bar vertical extremes kept at fixed temperatures  $T_0$ ,  $T_L$  is the solution of the BVP:

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Remark: In physics:

 $\triangleright$  y(t): Position at time t.

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Remark: In physics:

- $\triangleright$  y(t): Position at time t.
- ▶ Initial conditions: Position and velocity at the initial time  $t_0$ .

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Remark: In physics:

- $\triangleright$  y(x): A physical quantity (temperature) at a position x.
- ▶ Boundary conditions: Conditions at the boundary of the object under study, where  $x_1 \neq x_2$ .

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Review: The initial value problem.

Theorem (IVP)

Consider the homogeneous initial value problem:

$$y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0,$$
  $y(t_0) = y_0,$   $y'(t_0) = y_1,$ 

and let  $r_{\pm}$  be the roots of the characteristic polynomial

$$p(r) = r^2 + a_1 r + a_0.$$

If  $r_+ \neq r_-$ , real or complex, then for every choice of  $y_0$ ,  $y_1$ , there exists a unique solution y to the initial value problem above.

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Summary: The IVP above always has a unique solution, no matter what  $y_0$  and  $y_1$  we choose.

#### Theorem (BVP)

Consider the homogeneous boundary value problem:

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- (A) If  $r_+ \neq r_-$ , real, then for every choice of  $L \neq 0$  and  $y_0$ ,  $y_1$ , there exists a unique solution y to the BVP above.
- (B) If  $r_{\pm}=\alpha\pm i\beta$ , with  $\beta\neq 0$ , and  $\alpha,\beta\in\mathbb{R}$ , then the solutions to the BVP above belong to one of these possibilities:
  - (1) There exists a unique solution.
  - (2) There exists no solution.
  - (3) There exist infinitely many solutions.

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Using matrix notation,

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We conclude that for every choice of  $y_0$  and  $y_1$ , there exist a unique value of  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ , so the IVP above has a unique solution.

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- (1) If  $\beta L \neq n\pi$ , then BVP has a unique solution.
- (2) If  $\beta L = n\pi$  then BVP either has no solutions or it has infinitely many solutions.



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# Boundary Value Problems (Sect. 10.1).

- Two-point BVP.
- Example from physics.
- Comparison: IVP vs BVP.
- Existence, uniqueness of solutions to BVP.
- ► Particular case of BVP: **Eigenvalue-eigenfunction problem.**

#### Problem:

Find a number  $\lambda$  and a non-zero function y solutions to the boundary value problem

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
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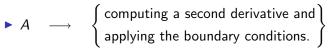
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# Particular case of BVP: Eigenvalue-eigenfunction problem.

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$$\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{I}\right)^2, \qquad y_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{I}\right).$$



# Overview of Fourier Series (Sect. 10.2).

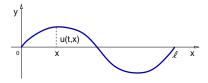
- Origins of the Fourier Series.
- Periodic functions.
- Orthogonality of Sines and Cosines.
- Main result on Fourier Series.

### Summary:

Daniel Bernoulli ( $\sim$  1750) found solutions to the equation that describes waves propagating on a vibrating string.

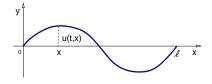
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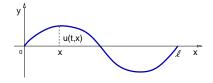
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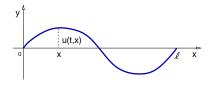
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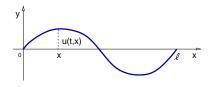


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$$\partial_t^2 u(t,x) = v^2 \, \partial_x^2 u(t,x), \quad v \in \mathbb{R}, \quad x \in [0,L], \quad t \in [0,\infty),$$

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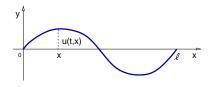
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Given a continuous,  $\tau$ -periodic function f, find the formulas for  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  such that

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Remarks: We need to review two main concepts:

- ▶ The notion of periodic functions.
- The notion of orthogonal functions, in particular the orthogonality of Sines and Cosines.

# Fourier Series (Sect. 10.2).

- Origins of the Fourier Series.
- ► Periodic functions.
- Orthogonality of Sines and Cosines.
- Main result on Fourier Series.

### Definition

A function  $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is called *periodic* iff there exists  $\tau > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  holds

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### Notation:

A periodic function with period T is also called T-periodic.

# Example

The following functions are periodic, with period T,

$$f(x) = \sin(x), \qquad T = 2\pi.$$

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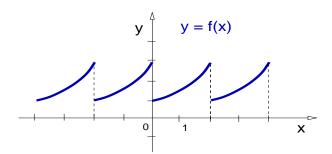
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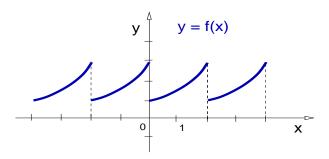


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So the function is periodic with period T=2.

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Remark: The functions below are periodic with period  $T = \frac{\tau}{n}$ ,

$$f(x) = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{\tau}\right), \quad g(x) = \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{\tau}\right),$$

#### Theorem

A linear combination of T-periodic functions is also T-periodic.

Proof: If 
$$f(x + T) = f(x)$$
 and  $g(x + T) = g(x)$ , then

$$af(x+T)+bg(x+T)=af(x)+bg(x),$$

so 
$$(af + bg)$$
 is also  $T$ -periodic.

## Example

$$f(x) = 2\sin(3x) + 7\cos(3x)$$
 is periodic with period  $T = 2\pi/3$ .  $\triangleleft$ 

Remark: The functions below are periodic with period  $T = \frac{\tau}{n}$ ,

$$f(x) = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{\tau}\right), \quad g(x) = \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{\tau}\right),$$

Since f and g are invariant under translations by  $\tau/n$ , they are also invariant under translations by  $\tau$ .

## Corollary

Any function f given by

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ a_n \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{\tau}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{\tau}\right) \right]$$

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Remark: We will show that the converse statement is true.

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### **Theorem**

A function f is  $\tau$ -periodic iff holds

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

# Fourier Series (Sect. 10.2).

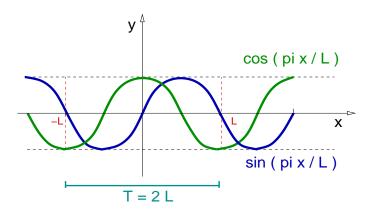
- Origins of the Fourier Series.
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From now on we work on the following domain: [-L, L].

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## Theorem (Orthogonality)

The following relations hold for all  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

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

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

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- ▶ The operation  $f \cdot g = \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) g(x) dx$  is an inner product in the vector space of functions. Like the dot product is in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- ▶ Two functions f, g, are orthogonal iff  $f \cdot g = 0$ .



Recall: 
$$\cos(\theta) \cos(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \cos(\theta + \phi) + \cos(\theta - \phi) \right];$$
  
 $\sin(\theta) \sin(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \cos(\theta - \phi) - \cos(\theta + \phi) \right];$   
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Proof: First formula: If n = m = 0, it is simple to see that

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In the case where one of n or m is non-zero, use the relation

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

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Proof: Since one of *n* or *m* is non-zero, holds

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

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We obtain that

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We obtain that

$$\int_{-L}^{L} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \, \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^{L} \cos\left[\frac{(n-m)\pi x}{L}\right] \, dx.$$

If we further restrict  $n \neq m$ , then

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{-L}^{L} \cos \left[ \frac{(n-m)\pi x}{L} \right] dx = \frac{L}{2(n-m)\pi} \sin \left[ \frac{(n-m)\pi x}{L} \right] \Big|_{-L}^{L} = 0.$$

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If  $n = m \neq 0$ , we have that

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This establishes the first equation in the Theorem. The remaining equations are proven in a similar way.

# Overview of Fourier Series (Sect. 10.2).

- Origins of the Fourier Series.
- Periodic functions.
- Orthogonality of Sines and Cosines.
- ► Main result on Fourier Series.

## Main result on Fourier Series.

## Theorem (Fourier Series)

If the function  $f:[-L,L]\subset\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  is continuous, then f can be expressed as an infinite series

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

with the constants  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  given by

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \qquad n \geqslant 0,$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \qquad n \geqslant 1.$$

Furthermore, the Fourier series in Eq. (1) provides a 2L-periodic extension of f from the domain  $[-L, L] \subset \mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

# Examples of the Fourier Theorem (Sect. 10.3).

- ▶ The Fourier Theorem: Continuous case.
- ► Example: Using the Fourier Theorem.
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Furthermore, the Fourier series in Eq. (2) provides a 2L-periodic extension of function f from the domain  $[-L, L] \subset \mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

### Sketch of the Proof:

▶ Define the partial sum functions

$$f_N(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left[ a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right]$$

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- Express  $f_N$  as a convolution of Sine, Cosine, functions and the original function f.
- Use the convolution properties to show that

$$\lim_{N\to\infty} f_N(x) = f(x), \qquad x\in [-L,L].$$



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## Example

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$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1+x & x \in [-1,0), \\ 1-x & x \in [0,1]. \end{cases}$$

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where the  $a_n$ ,  $b_n$  are given in the Theorem. We start with  $a_0$ ,

$$a_0 = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx = \int_{-1}^0 (1+x) dx + \int_0^1 (1-x) dx.$$

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We obtain:  $a_0 = 1$ .



Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1+x & x \in [-1,0), \\ 1-x & x \in [0,1]. \end{cases}$$

Solution: Recall:  $a_0 = 1$ .

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Recall the integrals 
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Recall the integrals 
$$\int \cos(n\pi x) dx = \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x)$$
, and 
$$\int x \cos(n\pi x) dx = \frac{x}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) + \frac{1}{n^2\pi^2} \cos(n\pi x).$$

#### Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1+x & x \in [-1,0), \\ 1-x & x \in [0,1]. \end{cases}$$

Solution: It is not difficult to see that

$$a_{n} = \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) \Big|_{-1}^{0} + \left[ \frac{x}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x) + \frac{1}{n^{2}\pi^{2}} \cos(n\pi x) \right] \Big|_{-1}^{0}$$
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We then conclude that  $a_n = \frac{2}{n^2 \pi^2} [1 - \cos(n\pi)].$ 

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Then, the Fourier series of f is given by

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



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We conclude: 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{(2k-1)^2 \pi^2} \cos((2k-1)\pi x)$$
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# Examples of the Fourier Theorem (Sect. 10.3).

- ▶ The Fourier Theorem: Continuous case.
- ▶ Example: Using the Fourier Theorem.
- ▶ The Fourier Theorem: Piecewise continuous case.
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### The Fourier Theorem: Piecewise continuous case.

#### Recall:

#### Definition

A function  $f:[a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$  is called *piecewise continuous* iff holds,

- (a) [a, b] can be partitioned in a finite number of sub-intervals such that f is continuous on the interior of these sub-intervals.
- (b) f has finite limits at the endpoints of all sub-intervals.

### The Fourier Theorem: Piecewise continuous case.

Theorem (Fourier Series)

If  $f: [-L, L] \subset \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is piecewise continuous, then the function

$$f_F(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right]$$

where  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  given by

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \qquad n \geqslant 0,$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^{L} f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \qquad n \geqslant 1.$$

satisfies that:

- (a)  $f_F(x) = f(x)$  for all x where f is continuous;
- (b)  $f_F(x_0) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \lim_{x \to x_0^+} f(x) + \lim_{x \to x_0^-} f(x) \right]$  for all  $x_0$  where f is discontinuous.

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$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -1 & x \in [-1, 0), \\ 1 & x \in [0, 1). \end{cases}$$
 and periodic with period  $T = 2$ .

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Example

Solution: Recall: 
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#### Example

Solution: Recall: 
$$b_{2k} = 0$$
,  $b_{2k} = \frac{4}{(2k-1)\pi}$ , and  $a_n = 0$ .

#### Example

Find the Fourier series of  $f(x) = \begin{cases} -1 & x \in [-1,0), \\ 1 & x \in [0,1). \end{cases}$  and periodic with period T = 2.

Solution: Recall:  $b_{2k} = 0$ ,  $b_{2k} = \frac{4}{(2k-1)\pi}$ , and  $a_n = 0$ . Therefore, we conclude that

$$f_F(x) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2k-1)} \sin((2k-1)\pi x).$$

