Boundary Value Problems (Sect. 6.1).

- 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,

 $b_1 y(x_1) + b_2 y'(x_1) = y_1,$ $\tilde{b}_1 y(x_2) + \tilde{b}_2 y'(x_2) = y_2.$

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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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Example Examples of BVP.



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Examples of BVP. Assume $x_1 \neq x_2$.

(1) Find y solution of

$$y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = g(x), \quad y(x_1) = y_1, \quad y(x_2) = y_2.$$

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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:

 $T''(x) = 0, \quad x \in (0, L), \quad T(0) = T_0, \quad T(L) = T_L,$

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Review: IVP:

Find the function values y(t) solutions of the differential equation

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• y(t): Position at time t.

Review: IVP:

Find the function values y(t) solutions of the differential equation

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together with the initial conditions

$$y(t_0) = y_1, \quad y'(t_0) = y_2.$$

Remark: In physics:

- y(t): Position at time t.
- ▶ Initial conditions: Position and velocity at the initial time t₀.

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Review: BVP:

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Remark: In physics:

- y(x): A physical quantity (temperature) at a position x.
- Boundary conditions: Conditions at the boundary of the object under study, where x₁ ≠ x₂.

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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.

Review: The initial value problem.

Theorem (IVP)

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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.

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:

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

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

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

(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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Proof of IVP: We study the case $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$.

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The initial conditions determine c_1 and c_2

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The initial conditions determine c_1 and c_2 as follows:

$$y_0 = y(t_0)$$

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$$egin{aligned} y_0 &= y(t_0) = c_1 \, e^{r_- \, t_0} + c_2 \, e^{r_+ \, t_0} \ y_1 &= y'(t_0) \end{aligned}$$

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Using matrix notation,

$$\begin{bmatrix} e^{r_{-}t_{0}} & e^{r_{+}t_{0}} \\ r_{-}e^{r_{-}t_{0}} & r_{+}e^{r_{+}t_{0}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{1} \\ c_{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_{0} \\ y_{1} \end{bmatrix}$$

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The linear system above has a unique solution c_1 and c_2 for every constants y_0 and y_1 iff

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The linear system above has a unique solution c_1 and c_2 for every constants y_0 and y_1 iff the det $(Z) \neq 0$,

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$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} e^{r_{-}t_{0}} & e^{r_{+}t_{0}} \\ r_{-}e^{r_{-}t_{0}} & r_{+}e^{r_{+}t_{0}} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Proof of IVP:
Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} e^{r_- t_0} & e^{r_+ t_0} \\ r_- e^{r_- t_0} & r_+ e^{r_+ t_0} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = (r_{+} - r_{-}) e^{(r_{+} + r_{-}) t_{0}}$$

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Since $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$, the matrix Z is invertible

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A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = (r_{+} - r_{-}) e^{(r_{+} + r_{-}) t_{0}} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad r_{+} \neq r_{-}.$$

Since $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$, the matrix Z is invertible and so

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = Z^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = (r_{+} - r_{-}) e^{(r_{+} + r_{-}) t_{0}} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad r_{+} \neq r_{-}.$$

Since $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$, the matrix Z is invertible and so

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = Z^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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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Proof of BVP: The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_- x} + c_2 e^{r_+ x},$$

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Proof of BVP: The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_- x} + c_2 e^{r_+ x}, \qquad c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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The boundary conditions determine c_1 and c_2

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The boundary conditions determine c_1 and c_2 as follows:

$$y_0=y(0)$$

Proof of BVP: The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_- x} + c_2 e^{r_+ x}, \qquad c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The boundary conditions determine c_1 and c_2 as follows:

$$y_0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2.$$

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Proof of BVP: The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_- x} + c_2 e^{r_+ x}, \qquad c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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 $y_1 = y(L)$

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Proof of BVP: The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_- x} + c_2 e^{r_+ x}, \qquad c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The boundary conditions determine c_1 and c_2 as follows:

$$y_0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2.$$

 $y_1 = y(L) = c_1 e^{r_- L} + c_2 e^{r_+ L}$

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Proof of BVP: The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_- x} + c_2 e^{r_+ x}, \qquad c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The boundary conditions determine c_1 and c_2 as follows:

$$y_0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2.$$

 $y_1 = y(L) = c_1 e^{r_- L} + c_2 e^{r_+ L}$

Using matrix notation,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_- L} & e^{r_+ L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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The linear system above has a unique solution c_1 and c_2 for every constants y_0 and y_1 iff

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$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_- x} + c_2 e^{r_+ x}, \qquad c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The boundary conditions determine c_1 and c_2 as follows:

$$y_0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2.$$

 $y_1 = y(L) = c_1 e^{r_- L} + c_2 e^{r_+ L}$

Using matrix notation,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_- L} & e^{r_+ L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The linear system above has a unique solution c_1 and c_2 for every constants y_0 and y_1 iff the det $(Z) \neq 0$,

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Proof of BVP: The general solution is

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Using matrix notation,

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The linear system above has a unique solution c_1 and c_2 for every constants y_0 and y_1 iff the det $(Z) \neq 0$, where

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix}$$

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The linear system above has a unique solution c_1 and c_2 for every constants y_0 and y_1 iff the det $(Z) \neq 0$, where

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof of IVP: Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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A simple calculation shows

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(A) If $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$ and real-valued,

Proof of IVP: Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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(A) If $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$ and real-valued, then $det(Z) \neq 0$.

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(A) If $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$ and real-valued, then $det(Z) \neq 0$.

We conclude: For every choice of y_0 and y_1 , there exist a unique value of c_1 and c_2 , so the BVP in (A) above has a unique solution.

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A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = e^{r_{+}L} - e^{r_{-}L} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e^{r_{+}L} \neq e^{r_{-}L}.$$

(A) If $r_* \neq r_-$ and real-valued, then $det(Z) \neq 0$.

We conclude: For every choice of y_0 and y_1 , there exist a unique value of c_1 and c_2 , so the BVP in (A) above has a unique solution.

(B) If
$$r_{\pm} = \alpha \pm i\beta$$
, with $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \neq 0$,

Proof of IVP: Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = e^{r_{+}L} - e^{r_{-}L} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e^{r_{+}L} \neq e^{r_{-}L}.$$

(A) If $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$ and real-valued, then $det(Z) \neq 0$.

We conclude: For every choice of y_0 and y_1 , there exist a unique value of c_1 and c_2 , so the BVP in (A) above has a unique solution.

(B) If
$$r_{\pm} = \alpha \pm i\beta$$
, with $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \neq 0$, then

$$\det(Z) = e^{\alpha L} (e^{i\beta L} - e^{-i\beta L})$$

Proof of IVP: Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = e^{r_+ L} - e^{r_- L} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e^{r_+ L} \neq e^{r_- L}.$$

(A) If $r_* \neq r_-$ and real-valued, then $det(Z) \neq 0$.

We conclude: For every choice of y_0 and y_1 , there exist a unique value of c_1 and c_2 , so the BVP in (A) above has a unique solution.

(B) If
$$r_{\pm} = \alpha \pm i\beta$$
, with $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \neq 0$, then

$$\det(Z) = e^{\alpha L} (e^{i\beta L} - e^{-i\beta L}) \Rightarrow \det(Z) = 2i e^{\alpha L} \sin(\beta L).$$

Proof of IVP: Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = e^{r_+ L} - e^{r_- L} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e^{r_+ L} \neq e^{r_- L}.$$

(A) If $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$ and real-valued, then $det(Z) \neq 0$.

We conclude: For every choice of y_0 and y_1 , there exist a unique value of c_1 and c_2 , so the BVP in (A) above has a unique solution.

(B) If
$$r_{\pm} = \alpha \pm i\beta$$
, with $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \neq 0$, then
 $\det(Z) = e^{\alpha L} (e^{i\beta L} - e^{-i\beta L}) \Rightarrow \det(Z) = 2i e^{\alpha L} \sin(\beta L).$

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Since det(Z) = 0 iff $\beta L = n\pi$, with *n* integer,

Proof of IVP: Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A simple calculation shows

$$\det(Z) = e^{r_{+}L} - e^{r_{-}L} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e^{r_{+}L} \neq e^{r_{-}L}.$$

(A) If $r_{+} \neq r_{-}$ and real-valued, then $det(Z) \neq 0$.

We conclude: For every choice of y_0 and y_1 , there exist a unique value of c_1 and c_2 , so the BVP in (A) above has a unique solution.

(B) If
$$r_{\pm} = \alpha \pm i\beta$$
, with $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \neq 0$, then

$$\det(Z) = e^{\alpha L} (e^{i\beta L} - e^{-i\beta L}) \Rightarrow \det(Z) = 2i e^{\alpha L} \sin(\beta L).$$

Since det(Z) = 0 iff $\beta L = n\pi$, with *n* integer, (1) If $\beta L \neq n\pi$, then BVP has a unique solution.

Proof of IVP: Recall:
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{r_{-}L} & e^{r_{+}L} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A simple calculation shows

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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.

Example

Find y solution of the BVP

$$y'' + y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y(\pi) = -1.$$

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The BVP has infinitely many solutions.

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The BVP has no solution.

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$$p(r) = r^2 + 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad r_{\pm} = \pm i.$$

The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 \cos(x) + c_2 \sin(x).$$

The boundary conditions are

$$1 = y(0) = c_1, \quad 1 = y(\pi/2) = c_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad c_1 = c_2 = 1.$$

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We conclude: y(x) = cos(x) + sin(x).

Example

Find y solution of the BVP

$$y'' + y = 0$$
, $y(0) = 1$, $y(\pi/2) = 1$.

Solution: The characteristic polynomial is

$$p(r) = r^2 + 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad r_{\pm} = \pm i.$$

The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 \cos(x) + c_2 \sin(x).$$

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We conclude: y(x) = cos(x) + sin(x).

The BVP has a unique solution.

Boundary Value Problems (Sect. 6.1).

- 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 λ and a non-zero function ${\it y}$ solutions to the boundary value problem

 $y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$ y(0) = 0, y(L) = 0, L > 0.

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 $A\mathbf{v} - \lambda \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}.$

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 $A \longrightarrow \begin{cases} \text{computing a second derivative and} \\ \text{applying the boundary conditions.} \end{cases}$

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Find a number λ and a non-zero function ${\it y}$ solutions to the boundary value problem

 $y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0, \qquad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0, \quad L > 0.$

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Differences:

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & A & \longrightarrow & \begin{cases} \text{computing a second derivative and} \\ \text{applying the boundary conditions.} \end{cases} \\ \bullet & \mathbf{v} & \longrightarrow & \{ \text{a function } y \}. \end{cases}$

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y(L) = 0,$ $L > 0.$

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Remarks: We will show that:

(1) If $\lambda \leq 0$, then the BVP has no solution.

Example

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(2) If $\lambda > 0$, then there exist infinitely many eigenvalues λ_n and eigenfunctions y_n , with n any positive integer,

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

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(3) Analogous results can be proven for the same equation but with different types of boundary conditions. For example, for y(0) = 0, y'(L) = 0; or for y'(0) = 0, y'(L) = 0.

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Solution: Case $\lambda = 0$. The equation is

$$y''=0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad y(x)=c_1+c_2x.$$
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The boundary conditions imply

0=y(0)

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The boundary conditions imply

$$0 = y(0) = c_1, \quad 0 = c_1 + c_2 L \quad \Rightarrow \quad c_1 = c_2 = 0.$$

Since y = 0, there are NO non-zero solutions for $\lambda = 0$.

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y(L) = 0,$ $L > 0.$

Solution: Case $\lambda < 0$.



Example

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Solution: Case $\lambda < 0$. Introduce the notation $\lambda = -\mu^2$.

Example

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Solution: Case $\lambda < 0$. Introduce the notation $\lambda = -\mu^2$. The characteristic equation is

$$p(r)=r^2-\mu^2=0$$

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

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Solution: Case $\lambda < 0$. Introduce the notation $\lambda = -\mu^2$. The characteristic equation is

$$p(r) = r^2 - \mu^2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad r_{\pm} = \pm \mu.$$

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The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{-\mu x}.$$

The boundary condition are

$$0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2,$$

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Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y(L) = 0,$ $L > 0.$

Solution: Case $\lambda < 0$. Introduce the notation $\lambda = -\mu^2$. The characteristic equation is

$$p(r) = r^2 - \mu^2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad r_{\pm} = \pm \mu.$$

The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{-\mu x}.$$

The boundary condition are

$$0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2,$$

$$0 = y(L) = c_1 e^{\mu L} + c_2 e^{-\mu L}.$$

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Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y(L) = 0,$ $L > 0.$

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Solution: Recall: $y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{\mu x}$ and $c_1 + c_2 = 0, \qquad c_1 e^{\mu L} + c_2 e^{-\mu L} = 0.$

Example

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Solution: Recall: $y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{\mu x}$ and $c_1 + c_2 = 0, \qquad c_1 e^{\mu L} + c_2 e^{-\mu L} = 0.$

We need to solve the linear system

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{\mu L} & e^{-\mu L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ e^{\mu L} & e^{-\mu L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \iff Z \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y(L) = 0,$ $L > 0.$

Solution: Recall: $y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{\mu x}$ and $c_1 + c_2 = 0, \qquad c_1 e^{\mu L} + c_2 e^{-\mu L} = 0.$

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$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
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Solution: Recall: $y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{\mu x}$ and $c_1 + c_2 = 0$, $c_1 e^{\mu L} + c_2 e^{-\mu L} = 0$.

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Since det(Z) = $e^{-\mu L} - e^{\mu L} \neq 0$ for $L \neq 0$, matrix Z is invertible, so the linear system above has a unique solution $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 0$.

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y(L) = 0,$ $L > 0.$

Solution: Recall: $y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{\mu x}$ and $c_1 + c_2 = 0$, $c_1 e^{\mu L} + c_2 e^{-\mu L} = 0$.

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Since det(Z) = $e^{-\mu L} - e^{\mu L} \neq 0$ for $L \neq 0$, matrix Z is invertible, so the linear system above has a unique solution $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 0$. Since y = 0, there are NO non-zero solutions for $\lambda < 0$.

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

$$y''(x) + \lambda y(x) = 0,$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y(L) = 0,$ $L > 0.$

Solution: Case $\lambda > 0$.



Example

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Solution: Case $\lambda > 0$. Introduce the notation $\lambda = \mu^2$.

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

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Solution: Case $\lambda > 0$. Introduce the notation $\lambda = \mu^2$. The characteristic equation is

$$p(r)=r^2+\mu^2=0$$

Example

Find every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and non-zero functions y solutions of the BVP

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The non-zero solution condition is the reason for $c_2 \neq 0$. Hence $\sin(\mu L) = 0$

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$$\sin(\mu L) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu_n L = n\pi$$

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Recalling that $\lambda_n = \mu_n^2$, and choosing $c_2 = 1$,
Particular case of BVP: Eigenvalue-eigenfunction problem.

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Recalling that $\lambda_n = \mu_n^2$, and choosing $c_2 = 1$, we conclude

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

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Overview of Fourier Series (Sect. 6.2).

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

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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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and boundary conditions,

$$u(t,0) = 0,$$
 $u(t,L) = 0.$

Summary:

Bernoulli found particular solutions to the wave equation.

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Summary:

Bernoulli found particular solutions to the wave equation.

If the initial condition is $f_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$,

then the solution is $u_n(t,x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{vn\pi t}{L}\right)$.

Bernoulli also realized that

$$U_N(t,x) = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{vn\pi t}{L}\right), \qquad a_n \in \mathbb{R}$$

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Summary:

Bernoulli found particular solutions to the wave equation.

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

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Remarks:

- ▶ However, Fourier went farther than Bernoulli. Fourier found a formula for the coefficients *a_n* in terms of the function *F*.
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for N any positive integer, where the a_n are given by

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

To find all solutions to the heat equation problem above one must prove one more thing:

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Remarks: We need to review two main concepts:

The notion of periodic functions.

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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. 6.2).

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

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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

 $f(x+\tau)=f(x).$

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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,

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$$f\left(x+\frac{2\pi}{a}\right) = \sin\left(ax+a\frac{2\pi}{a}\right)$$

Example

The following functions are periodic, with period T,

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The proof of the latter statement is the following:

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Show that the function below is periodic, and find its period,

$$f(x) = e^x$$
, $x \in [0, 2)$, $f(x - 2) = f(x)$.

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So the function is periodic with period T = 2.

Theorem

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

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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

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

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

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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 $T = \frac{\tau}{2}$,

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

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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 $T = \frac{\tau}{n}$, $(2\pi nx)$

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

Since f and g are invariant under translations by τ/n , they are also invariant under translations by τ .

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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Periodic functions.

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

Periodic functions.

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Theorem A function f is τ -periodic iff holds

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

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Fourier Series (Sect. 6.2).

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

Main result on Fourier Series.

Remark:

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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Remark:

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Remark:

The operation f ⋅ g = ∫^L_{-L} f(x) g(x) dx is an inner product in the vector space of functions. Like the dot product is in ℝ².
 Two functions f, g, are orthogonal iff f ⋅ g = 0.

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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

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

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

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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. 6.2).

- 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

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

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

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. 6.2).

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

• Example: Using the Fourier Theorem.

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

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(2)

with the constants a_n and b_n given by

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

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Express f_N as a convolution of Sine, Cosine, functions and the original function f.

Sketch of the Proof:

Define the partial sum functions

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

with a_n and b_n given by

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

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

- 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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Examples of the Fourier Theorem (Sect. 6.2).

- The Fourier Theorem: Continuous case.
- **•** Example: Using the Fourier Theorem.
- ► The Fourier Theorem: Piecewise continuous case.

• Example: Using the Fourier Theorem.

Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

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Solution: In this case L = 1.

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Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

Solution: In this case L = 1. The Fourier series expansion is

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

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where the a_n , b_n are given in the Theorem.

Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

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

$$a_0=\int_{-1}^1 f(x)\,dx$$

Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

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

$$a_0 = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \, dx = \int_{-1}^0 (1+x) \, dx + \int_0^1 (1-x) \, dx.$$
$$a_0 = \left(x + \frac{x^2}{2}\right)\Big|_{-1}^0 + \left(x - \frac{x^2}{2}\right)\Big|_0^1$$

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

$$a_0 = \left(x + \frac{x^2}{2}\right)\Big|_{-1}^0 + \left(x - \frac{x^2}{2}\right)\Big|_0^1 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

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We obtain: $a_0 = 1$.

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Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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Solution: Recall: $a_0 = 1$.

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

Solution: Recall: $a_0 = 1$. Similarly, the rest of the a_n are given by,

$$a_n = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \cos(n\pi x) \, dx$$

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$$a_n = \int_{-1}^0 (1+x) \cos(n\pi x) dx + \int_0^1 (1-x) \cos(n\pi x) dx.$$
Recall the integrals
$$\int \cos(n\pi x) dx = \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin(n\pi x),$$

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Solution: Recall: $a_0 = 1$. Similarly, the rest of the a_n are given by,

$$a_n = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \cos(n\pi x) \, dx$$
$$a_n = \int_{-1}^0 (1+x) \cos(n\pi x) \, dx + \int_0^1 (1-x) \cos(n\pi x) \, dx.$$

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

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

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We then conclude that $a_{n} = \frac{2}{n^{2}\pi^{2}} \Big[1 - \cos(n\pi) \Big].$

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Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

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Finally, we must find the coefficients b_n .

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A similar calculation shows that $b_n = 0$.

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Finally, we must find the coefficients b_n .

A similar calculation shows that $b_n = 0$.

Then, the Fourier series of f is given by

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

Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

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

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We can obtain a simpler expression for the Fourier coefficients a_n .

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

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

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If n = 2k,

Example

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If n = 2k, so *n* is even,

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If n = 2k, so *n* is even, so n + 1 = 2k + 1 is odd,

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If n = 2k, so n is even, so n + 1 = 2k + 1 is odd, then

$$a_{2k} = \frac{2}{(2k)^2 \pi^2} \left(1 - 1\right)$$

Example

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

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

If n = 2k, so n is even, so n + 1 = 2k + 1 is odd, then

$$a_{2k} = rac{2}{(2k)^2 \pi^2} (1-1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad a_{2k} = 0.$$

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

If n = 2k, so n is even, so n + 1 = 2k + 1 is odd, then

$$a_{2k} = rac{2}{(2k)^2 \pi^2} (1-1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad a_{2k} = 0.$$

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If n = 2k - 1, so n is odd,

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If n = 2k - 1, so n is odd, so n + 1 = 2k is even,

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

If n = 2k, so n is even, so n + 1 = 2k + 1 is odd, then

$$a_{2k} = rac{2}{(2k)^2 \pi^2} (1-1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad a_{2k} = 0.$$

If n = 2k - 1, so n is odd, so n + 1 = 2k is even, then

$$a_{2k-1} = rac{2}{(2k-1)^2 \pi^2} (1+1)^2$$

Example

Find the Fourier series expansion of the function

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

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

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If n = 2k - 1, so n is odd, so n + 1 = 2k is even, then

$$a_{2k-1} = rac{2}{(2k-1)^2 \pi^2} (1+1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad a_{2k-1} = rac{4}{(2k-1)^2 \pi^2} dk$$

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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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Solution:

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We conclude:
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{(2k-1)^2 \pi^2} \cos((2k-1)\pi x). \triangleleft$$

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Examples of the Fourier Theorem (Sect. 6.2).

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

• Example: Using the Fourier Theorem.

The Fourier Theorem: Piecewise continuous case.

Recall:

Definition

A function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ 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.

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(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

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

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

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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Examples of the Fourier Theorem (Sect. 6.2).

- ▶ The Fourier Theorem: Continuous case.
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• Example: Using the Fourier Theorem.

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

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Solution: We start computing the Fourier coefficients b_n ;

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$$b_n = \frac{(-1)}{n\pi} [-1 + \cos(-n\pi)] + \frac{1}{n\pi} [-\cos(n\pi) + 1].$$

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If $n = 2k$, then $b_{2k} = \frac{2}{2k\pi} [1 - (-1)^{2k}],$

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If $n = 2k$, then $b_{2k} = \frac{2}{2k\pi} [1 - (-1)^{2k}],$ hence $b_{2k} = 0.$

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hence $b_{2k} = \frac{4}{(2k-1)\pi}.$

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

Example

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