

## BNC Mathematics Sem - IV (Fourier series)

### Problem:

Represent a function  $f(x)$  by a trigonometrical series of the form

$$\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

### Orthogonality formulae of integral:

1.  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx \cos nx dx = 0$  since  $\sin nx$  &  $\sin mx \cos nx$  are odd function

2.  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx dx = \begin{cases} 0, n > 0 \\ 2\pi, n = 0 \end{cases}$  since  $\sin n\pi = 0$  for any integer  $n$

3.  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mx \sin nx dx = \begin{cases} 0, m \neq n \\ \pi, m = n > 0 \\ 0, m = n = 0 \end{cases}$

4.  $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mx \cos nx dx = \begin{cases} 0, m \neq n \\ \pi, m = n > 0 \\ 2\pi, m = n = 0 \end{cases}$

*where  $a_0, \{a_n\}, \{b_n\}$  are fourier coefficients*

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

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

And  $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx$

We have to find these coefficients for a function  $f(x)$  which satisfies Dirichlet's conditions.

Now Dirichlet's conditions:

$f(x)$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions if  $f(x)$  is bounded, periodic, integrable in  $[-\pi, \pi]$  and piecewise monotone. if  $f(x) = x^2$  it is bounded, periodic, integrable and  $f'(x) = 2x$  which is  $> 0$  in  $(0, \pi)$  and  $< 0$  in  $(-\pi, 0) \therefore f(x)$  is monotone increasing in  $(0, \pi)$  and monotone decreasing in  $(-\pi, 0) \therefore f(x)$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions in  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . now find Fourier coefficients

## Fourier series and Fourier constants:

Let  $f(x)$  can be represented by a series  $\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx)$  --- (1)

and the series (1) converges uniformly to  $f(x)$  on  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$

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

Since the series (1) converges uniformly on  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$  to  $f(x)$

$$\therefore \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx dx + b_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx dx) \text{ --- (3)}$$

$$\therefore \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{a_0}{2} \times 2\pi \text{ since } \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin nx dx = 0 \text{ by P1 \& P2.}$$

$$\therefore a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx$$

Multiply (2) by  $\cos kx$  for integer  $k \geq 1$  it remains uniformly convergent in  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos kx dx = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos kx dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos kx \cos nx dx + b_n \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos kx \sin nx dx)$$

$$\therefore \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos kx dx = \pi a_k \text{ by properties P1, P2, P4} \therefore a_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos kx dx$$

Similarly multiplying (2) by  $\sin kx$  for integer  $k \geq 1$   $b_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin kx dx$

series (1) is known as Fourier series corresponding to  $f(x)$  and is denoted by

$$f(x) \sim \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

and  $a_0, \{a_n\}, \{b_n\}$  are known as Fourier constants.

### Dirichlet's conditions:

A function  $f(x)$  is said to satisfy Dirichlet's conditions on an interval  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$  in which it is defined when it is subjected to one of the following conditions.

1.  $f(x)$  is bounded periodic with period  $2\pi$  and integrable on  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$

And the interval can be divided into a finite number of open partial intervals in each of which  $f(x)$  is monotonic { or  $f(x)$  is bounded periodic with period  $2\pi$  and

Integrable on  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$  and piecewise monotonic on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  }

2.  $f(x)$  has a finite number of points of infinite discontinuities in the interval. When arbitrary small neighbourhoods of these points are excluded,  $f(x)$  is bounded in the remainder of the interval, and this can be broken up into a finite number of open partial intervals in each of which  $f(x)$  is monotonic.

## Convergence

When  $f(x)$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions on  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$

The Fourier series corresponding to  $f(x)$  converges to  $f(x)$

at any point on  $-\pi < x < \pi$  where  $f(x)$  is continuous.

And converges to  $\frac{1}{2}\{f(x+0) + f(x-0)\}$  when there is an ordinary discontinuity at  $x$

In particular at  $x = \pi$  and at  $x = -\pi$  it converges to  $\frac{1}{2}\{f(-\pi+0) + f(\pi-0)\}$

when  $f(-\pi+0)$  &  $f(\pi-0)$  exists.

Where  $f(\pi+0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi+0} f(x)$  i.e right hand limit of  $f(x)$  at  $x = \pi$

Ex1: Verify that  $f(x) = x^2$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

Show that the Fourier series corresponding to  $x^2$

on  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$  is  $\frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\cos nx}{n^2}$ . Hence deduce that  $1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$

$$\& 1 - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$$

Soln.:  $f(x) = x^2$  is bounded & integrable on  $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$ , since it is continuous on  $[-\pi, \pi]$

$f'(x) = 2x > 0$  on  $0 < x \leq \pi$  i.e.  $f(x)$  is monotone increasing on  $0 < x \leq \pi$

$< 0$  on  $-\pi \leq x < 0$  i.e.  $f(x)$  is monotonic decreasing on  $-\pi \leq x < 0$

Therefore  $f(x)$  is piecewise monotone on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Hence  $f(x) = x^2$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ . Also  $f(x) = x^2$  is an even function of  $x$ .

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

$$a_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos kx dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x^2 \cos kx dx = \frac{4}{k^2} \cos k\pi = \frac{4(-1)^k}{k^2} \quad (\text{integrating by parts})$$

$$b_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin kx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \sin kx dx = 0 \quad \text{since } x^2 \sin kx \text{ is an odd function of } x.$$

Therefore Fourier series corresponding to  $f(x) = x^2$  is  $\frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\cos nx}{n^2}$ .

i.e.  $f(x) = x^2 \sim \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\cos nx}{n^2}$ .

Since  $f(x)$  satisfies Dirichlet's conditions and continuous on  $[-\pi, \pi]$

Therefore  $f(x) = x^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\cos nx}{n^2}$  on  $-\pi < x < \pi$  --- (1)

at  $x = 0$  from (1)  $0 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4\{-1 + \frac{1}{2^2} - \frac{1}{3^2} \dots\} \Rightarrow 1 - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$

$\frac{1}{2}\{f(-\pi + 0) + f(\pi - 0)\} = \pi^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4\left\{1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots\right\}$

$\therefore 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$

