

Complex Fourier Series (17.3.4)

Recall $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$

so $e^{-i\theta} = \cos \theta - i \sin \theta$

add $\rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2}$

subtract $\rightarrow \sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i}$

We can rewrite the sin and cos terms in our Fourier series in terms of these complex exponentials.

Consider the sum in a Fourier series up to $n = N$:

$$a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

$$= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{a_n}{2} (e^{\frac{in\pi x}{L}} + e^{-\frac{in\pi x}{L}}) + \frac{b_n}{2i} (e^{\frac{in\pi x}{L}} - e^{-\frac{in\pi x}{L}})$$

$$= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{2} (a_n - ib_n) e^{\frac{in\pi x}{L}} + \frac{1}{2} (a_n + ib_n) e^{-\frac{in\pi x}{L}}$$

$$= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{2} (a_n - ib_n) e^{\frac{in\pi x}{L}} + \sum_{n=-N}^{-1} \frac{1}{2} (a_{-n} + ib_{-n}) e^{\frac{in\pi x}{L}}$$

$$= \sum_{n=-N}^N c_n e^{\frac{in\pi x}{L}}$$

where $c_0 = a_0$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2} (a_n - ib_n), \quad n \geq 1$$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2} (a_{-n} + ib_{-n}), \quad n \leq -1$$

Notice, $c_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx$

If $n \geq 1$, $c_n = \frac{1}{2} (a_n - ib_n)$

$$= \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx - \frac{i}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) e^{-\frac{in\pi x}{L}} dx$$

If $n \leq 1$,

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2l} (a_{-n} + i b_{-n})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx + \frac{i}{2l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) \sin \left(-\frac{n\pi x}{l} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) \left(\cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} - i \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) e^{-i \frac{n\pi x}{l}} dx$$

In all cases

$$a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} = \sum_{n=-N}^N c_n e^{i n \pi x / l}$$

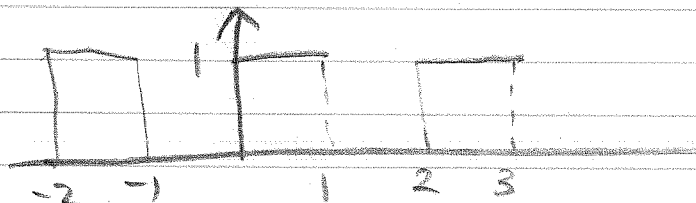
where $c_n = \frac{1}{2l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) e^{-i \frac{n\pi x}{l}} dx$

So we define the complex Fourier series of f to be

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{i n \pi x / l}$$

where $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}$ is interpreted as $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=-N}^N$

Example



Here $l = 2$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2l} \int_{-l}^l f(x) e^{-i \frac{n\pi x}{l}} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 e^{-i n \pi x} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{-1}{i n \pi} e^{-i n \pi x} \right]_0^1 \quad \text{if } n \neq 0$$

$$= \frac{-1}{4i\pi} (e^{-in\pi} - 1)$$

But $e^{-in\pi} = \cos n\pi - i\sin n\pi = (-1)^n$

so $c_n = \frac{1}{4i\pi} (1 - (-1)^n) \quad n \neq 0$

when $n=0$, $c_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^1 f(x) dx$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 1 dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}$$

so $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{4i\pi} e^{in\pi x}$

Sturm - Liouville Theory (17.7)

Recall that when we separated variables, we chose a separation constant $-k^2$, i.e. a non-positive constant. Let's see if we can prove that the constant is ≤ 0 .

We had $X'' = -k^2 X$ or $X'' + k^2 X = 0$

But in general we might have

$$X''(x) + \lambda X(x) = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

and we want to show $\lambda \geq 0$

We assume that X satisfies homogeneous boundary conditions such as

$$X(0) = 0, \quad X(1) = 0$$

Such a function X is called an eigenfunction with eigenvalue λ . (provided X is not identically zero).

It's not even clear from (1) that λ is real so let's assume it is complex. Let $\bar{X}$ denote the complex conjugate of X

(Reminder: if $z = a + ib$ then $\bar{z} = a - ib$
 $z\bar{z} = a^2 + b^2 = |z|^2$).

Multiply 0 by $\bar{X}$ and integrate

$$\lambda \int_0^L X \bar{X} dx = - \int_0^L \bar{X} X'' dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But } \bar{X} X'' &= (\bar{X} X')' - \bar{X}' X' \\ &= (\bar{X} X')' - |X'|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{so RHS} = - \int_0^L (\bar{X} X')' - |X'|^2 dx$$

$$= - [\bar{X} X']_0^L + \int_0^L |X'|^2 dx$$

$$= \underline{-\bar{X}(L) X'(L) + \bar{X}(0) X'(0)} - \int_0^L |X'|^2 dx$$

But if $X(L) = 0$ then $\bar{X}(L) = 0$
 if $X(0) = 0$ then $\bar{X}(0) = 0$ } Dirichlet Boundary conditions.

so the underlined part is zero

Notice that the underlined part is zero also with Neumann boundary conditions $X'(L) = 0$, $X'(0) = 0$

We could also have a Dirichlet condition at one end and a Neumann condition at the other end.

In all these cases, we have

$$\lambda \int_0^L |X|^2 dx = \int_0^L |X'|^2 dx$$

$$\text{so } \lambda = \frac{\int_0^L |X'|^2 dx}{\int_0^L |X|^2 dx}$$

This is ≥ 0 because numerator ≥ 0 and denominator > 0 .

Is it possible to have $\lambda = 0$? For that we

would need $\int_0^L |X'|^2 dx = 0$ and that

could only happen if $X' = 0$ everywhere, so $X(x) = c$, a constant.

If we had also at least one homogeneous Dirichlet condition, $X(0) = 0$ or $X(L) = 0$, then we would conclude $c = 0$ so $X(x) = 0$, which is not allowed.

Hence:

If $X(0) = 0$ or $X(L) = 0$, λ must be positive.

But if $X'(0) = 0$ and $X'(L) = 0$ are the boundary conditions then we obtain an eigenfunction

$$X(x) = 1 \quad (\text{or any other non-zero constant})$$

and $\lambda = 0$.

Example Find the eigenfunctions and eigenvalues of

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0, \quad X'(0) = X'(L) = 0$$

Solution We already know that $\lambda = 0$ is an eigenvalue with eigenfunction

$$X(x) = 1$$

Other eigenvalues are positive, so write $\lambda = k^2$

$$X'' + k^2 X = 0 \quad k \geq 0$$

$$X = c_1 \cos kx + c_2 \sin kx$$

$$X' = -c_1 k \sin kx + c_2 k \cos kx$$

$$X'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0 \quad \text{so } X = c_1 \cos kx$$

$$X'(L) = 0 \Rightarrow -c_1 k \sin kL = 0$$

But $c_1 \neq 0$ because X is not the trivial function

$$\text{So } \sin KL = 0$$

$$\text{So } KL = n\pi$$

$$K = \frac{n\pi}{L}$$

and the eigenfunctions are

$$X_n(x) = \cos \frac{n\pi}{L} x$$

$$\text{with } \lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2}, \quad n=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

We need only take $n \geq 0$ because $n=0$ gives the zero-eigenvalue and eigenfunction, n negative duplicates what we get for $n > 0$.

Orthogonality

We showed orthogonality directly before

$$\text{e.g. } \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx = \begin{cases} \frac{L}{2}, & m=n \\ 0, & m \neq n \end{cases}$$

But it's easy to see why eigenfunctions are always orthogonal,

Let ϕ_m and ϕ_n be eigenfunctions of

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0$$

with eigenvalues λ_m and λ_n , with $\lambda_m \neq \lambda_n$

$$\text{i.e. } \phi_n'' + \lambda_n \phi_n = 0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\phi_m'' + \lambda_m \phi_m = 0 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$\phi_m \times (2) - \phi_n \times (3)$ gives

$$\phi_m \phi_n'' - \phi_n \phi_m'' + (\lambda_n - \lambda_m) \phi_n \phi_m$$

Hence $\int_0^L \phi_n'' \phi_m - \phi_m'' \phi_n dx = (\lambda_m - \lambda_n) \int_0^L \phi_n \phi_m dx$ ④

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} (\phi_n' \phi_m - \phi_m' \phi_n) &= \phi_n'' \phi_m + \cancel{\phi_n' \phi_m'} - \phi_m'' \phi_n - \cancel{\phi_m' \phi_n'} \\ &= \phi_n'' \phi_m - \phi_m'' \phi_n \end{aligned}$$

So the LHS of ④ above is

$$\int_0^L \frac{d}{dx} (\phi_n' \phi_m - \phi_m' \phi_n) dx = [\phi_n' \phi_m - \phi_n \phi_m']_0^L = 0$$

If we have homogeneous Dirichlet or Neumann boundary conditions at $x=0$ or L .

Note This also works for a homogeneous Robin boundary condition

$$\begin{aligned} X'(L) &= -h_2 X(L) \\ \text{or } X'(0) &= h_1 X(0) \end{aligned}$$

as obtained for Newton-cooling at the end of a rod. In fact, Dirichlet, Neumann, Robin boundary conditions are all described by the equations

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha X(0) + \beta X'(0) &= 0 \\ \gamma X(L) + \delta X'(L) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where α and β are not both zero; and γ and δ are not both zero.

The same mathematical techniques may be applied to more general second order d.e.'s described below:

General Sturm-Liouville Problem:

$$(p(x)y')' + q(x)y + \lambda w(x)y = 0 \quad a < x < b$$

with homogeneous boundary conditions:

$$\alpha y(a) + \beta y'(a) = 0$$

$$\gamma y(b) + \delta y'(b) = 0$$

Here $p(x) > 0$ and $w(x) > 0$ on $[a, b]$,
 p, q, w continuous on $[a, b]$,
 α, β not both zero
 γ, δ " " " "

Sturm-Liouville Theorem

- (a) The eigenvalues are real
- (b) The eigenvalues are simple. i.e. each eigenvalue has only one linearly independent eigenfunction. There is an infinite number of eigenvalues $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_3, \dots$ where $\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

- (c) Eigenfunctions corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal, i.e.

$$\int_a^b \phi_m(x) \phi_n(x) w(x) dx = 0 \quad \text{if } m \neq n$$

- (d) If f and f' are piecewise continuous on $[a, b]$ then we can form the eigenfunction expansion ("Fourier series")

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \phi_n(x)$$

where
$$a_n = \frac{\int_a^b \phi_n(x) f(x) w(x) dx}{\int_a^b (\phi_n(x))^2 w(x) dx}$$

which converges to $f(x)$ whenever
 f is continuous and to
 $\frac{1}{2}(f(x^-) + f(x^+))$

whenever f has a jump.