

Homework 4

Week 5

Caltech - Winter 2012

Instructions: Choose **three** questions out of the following **six** to complete. If you attempt more than three questions, your three highest scores will be recorded as your grade. Also, write me/Daiqi an email if you get stuck!

Resources allowed: Wikipedia, Mathematica, your notes, the online class notes, textbooks, and your classmates. If you've completed a problem via Mathematica or writing a program, attach your code to receive credit.

Also: I put on a 7th problem. If you want, instead of doing this set, you can simply solve problem 7! Please email Daiqi and I your code/a compiled program if you do this.

Standard Exercises:

- For each of the following power series, find the sets on which they converge:

$$(a) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n \cdot n^n.$$

$$(b) \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n \cdot \ln(n)}.$$

$$(c) \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(\ln(n))^n}.$$

- We mentioned the following orthogonality relations in class on Wednesday when we were talking about Fourier series:

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin^2(nx) dx = \pi, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos^2(nx) dx = \pi, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

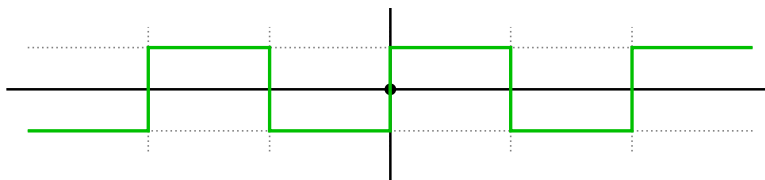
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(nx) \sin(mx) dx = 0, \forall n \neq m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(nx) \cos(mx) dx = 0, \forall n \neq m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(nx) \cos(mx) dx = 0, \forall n, m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Prove any **two** of these relations. (Calculating all of these integrals involves pretty much the same set of tricks, which is why we're not asking you to show *all* of them.)

3. (a) Find the Fourier series of the **square wave** $s(x)$:



$$s(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & x \in [-\pi, 0), \\ 1, & x \in [0, \pi), \\ s(x \pm 2\pi), & \forall x \in \mathbb{R}. \end{cases}$$

- (b) Using (Mathematica/Maple/Matlab/Wolfram Alpha/your favorite program), graph the sum of the first hundred terms of the Fourier series from $-\pi$ to π , and attach your graph. Does it look like a square wave? What does it look like is occurring near the “jump discontinuities” at $-\pi, 0$, and π ? (This doesn’t have to be rigorous: just describe visually what you see. If you **do** want a rigorous discussion of what’s going on here, look up the **Gibbs phenomenon** on Wikipedia.)

More Interesting Problems:

4. Using **Mathematica’s Play function** and the harmonic analysis at <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/music/flutew.html>, create a Fourier series that sounds like a flute playing $F4$ when played in Mathematica. (If you are unsure what this means, ask me!)
5. Suppose that $P(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ is a power series such that $p(x) = 0, \forall x$. Show that $a_n = 0$, for all n .
(Hint: First, show that $\left. \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (p(x)) \right|_0 = n! \cdot a_n$. Then, show that all of $p(x)$ ’s derivatives at 0 are 0.)
6. (a) Suppose that $P(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ is an even¹ function. Show that a_n is 0 whenever n is odd.
(b) Suppose that $P(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ is an odd² function. Show that a_n is 0 whenever n is even.
(Hint: Use problem (5). You are welcome to use problem (5) even if you haven’t proven it.)

Far More Interesting Problems:

7. Create a synthesizer. Specifically, create a program that when ran does the following:
- First, asks you for your choice of instrument (provide at least two choices of instrument, like sine wave, sawtooth wave, square wave, clarinet-ish wave.)
 - Then, it takes in a number 1 through 12, interprets such a number as one of the 12 musical notes $A, Bb, B, \dots, G\sharp$, and plays over speakers a Fourier series corresponding to this frequency and the chosen instrument.

If you are unsure as to what counts as a “program,” write me and I can explain! Also, if you do this, send both Daiqi and I a copy of your code, so we can play around with it.

¹I.e. $P(x) = P(-x)$.

²I.e. $P(x) = -P(-x)$.