

@Chen Siyi

November 30, 2020

# Note9 Fourier Series

---

## Note9 Fourier Series

- 1 Inner Product Space
  - 1.1 Vector Space
  - 1.2 Inner Product Space
  - 1.3 Norm and Orthogonality
  - 1.4 Gram-Schmidt Orthonormalization
  - 1.5 Orthonormal Basis and Completeness
- 2 Approximation of "Vectors"
- 3 Fourier Analysis
  - 3.1 Basic Definitions about "Measure"
  - 3.2 The Fourier-Euler Basis
    - 3.2.1 The Gibbs Phenomenon
    - 3.2.2 Convergence of Fourier Series(Dirichlet's rule)
  - 3.3 The Fourier-Cosine Basis
  - 3.4 The Fourier-Sine Basis
  - 3.5 Complex Fourier-Euler Basis
- 4 Additional Practice

Let's look at the series methods from a wider view

## 1 Inner Product Space

---

### 1.1 Vector Space

A **vector space** is a set  $V$ , equipped with a rule for addition of any two vectors and for scalar multiplication of a vector by a scalar.

The **addition** + must satisfy the following axioms:

1. The set  $V$  is closed under addition: For any two vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  of  $V$ , the sum  $v + w$  is also in  $V$ .
2. Addition is commutative: For all  $v, w \in V$ ,  $v + w = w + v$ .
3. Addition is associative: For all  $v, w, y \in V$ ,  $(v + w) + y = v + (w + y)$ .
4. There is an additive identity: There exists  $0_V \in V$  such that  $v + 0_V = 0_V + v = v$  for all  $v \in V$ .
5. Every element has an additive inverse: for every  $v \in V$ , there exists a vector  $y \in V$  such that  $v + y = y + v = 0_V$ .

The **scalar multiplication** must satisfy the following axioms:

1. The set  $V$  is closed under scalar multiplication: For any vector  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $V$  and any scalar  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , the scalar multiple  $\lambda\mathbf{v}$  is also in  $V$ .
2. For two scalars  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ , we have  $a(b\mathbf{v}) = (ab)\mathbf{v}$  for all vectors  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ .
3. For  $1 \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $1\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$  for all  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ .

And finally, **scalar multiplication distributes over addition**:

1.  $\lambda(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = \lambda(\mathbf{v}) + \lambda(\mathbf{w})$  for all  $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$  and all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ .
2.  $(a + b)\mathbf{v} = a\mathbf{v} + b\mathbf{v}$  for all vectors  $\mathbf{v} \in V$  and all scalars  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ .

## 1.2 Inner Product Space

An **inner product** on a **vector space**  $V$  is a function

$$V \times V \longrightarrow X$$

$X$  can be  $\mathbb{C}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ . It must satisfy the following axioms:

1. Symmetry:  $\langle f, g \rangle = \overline{\langle g, f \rangle}$  for all vectors  $f, g \in V$ ;
2. Linearity in each factor:  $\langle (f + g), h \rangle = \langle f, h \rangle + \langle g, h \rangle$  for all vectors  $f, g, h \in V$  and  $\langle \lambda f, g \rangle = \lambda \langle f, g \rangle$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and all  $f, g \in V$ .
3. Positive Definiteness:  $\langle f, f \rangle \geq 0$  for all  $f \in V$  with  $\langle f, f \rangle = 0$  if and only if  $f = 0_V$ .

A vector space  $V$  together with a choice of an inner product  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  is called an **inner product space**.

As the most familiar example,  $V = \mathbb{R}^n, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle = \cdot$ .

## 1.3 Norm and Orthogonality

As soon as you define an inner product space, you can define norm and orthogonality

**Norm** of a vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is defined as

$$\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle}$$

Which can be interpreted as the length defined under that inner product.

If the norm of  $\mathbf{v} = 1$ , it is said to be **normed** or **normalized**.

And there are some **fundamental theorems**:

### 1. Pythagoras's Theorem:

Let  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be an inner product space and  $z = x + y \in V$ , where  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ . Then

$$\|z\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2$$

### 2. Bessel's Inequality:

Let  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be an inner product space and  $\{e_k\}, k \in I \subset V, I \subset \mathbb{N}$ , be an orthonormal system in  $V$ . Then, for any  $v \in V$ ,

$$\sum_{k \in I} |\langle e_k, v \rangle|^2 \leq \|v\|^2$$

Two vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  are **orthogonal** if

$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = 0$$

A system of vectors is an **orthonormal system** if all the vectors are **normed**, and are **orthogonal** to each other.

Let's see a really straight-forward way to find orthonormal systems!

As long as initially you have a system, just keep using **orthogonal projection**...

## 1.4 Gram-Schmidt Orthonormalization

Used to construct an orthonormal system from an existing system.

$$w_1 := \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|}$$

$$w_2 := \frac{v_2 - \langle w_1, v_2 \rangle w_1}{\|v_2 - \langle w_1, v_2 \rangle w_1\|}$$

$$w_k := \frac{v_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \langle w_j, v_k \rangle w_j}{\|v_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \langle w_j, v_k \rangle w_j\|}, \quad k = 2, \dots, n$$

**A Tricky Question:**

By the way, does any system returns an orthonormal system of the same size as before?

## 1.5 Orthonormal Basis and Completeness

A system of vectors  $\mathcal{B}$  is an **orthonormal basis** of the vector space  $V$  if it is an **orthonormal system**, and  $\text{span}\{\mathcal{B}\} = V$ .

**A Tricky Question:**

Can we always construct an **orthonormal basis** of  $V$  using the **Gram-Schmidt Orthonormalization** approach from an existing basis of  $V$ ?

A theorem but not the definition: An **inner product space**  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  is **complete** iff every maximal orthonormal system is an orthonormal basis.

Intuitively you can interpret as...

Any vector in  $V$  can be represented "precisely" (by linear combinations) using the maximal orthonormal system as long as it is a basis.

Otherwise, even you have a maximal orthonormal system, this system can't be used to represent a vector precisely!

Multiple inner products can be defined for a vector space. For example, let  $C([a, b])$  be the vector space:

$$\|f\|_2 := \sqrt{\int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx}$$

$$\|f\|_1 := \int_a^b |f(x)| dx$$

$$\|f\|_\infty := \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x)|$$

And a sequence is said to **converge uniformly** if  $\|f_n\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$ , **converge in the mean** if  $\|f_n\|_1 \rightarrow 0$ , and **converge in the mean square** if  $\|f_n\|_2 \rightarrow 0$ .

But not all inner products make sure the inner product space is complete.

For example,  $(C([a, b]), \|\cdot\|_2)$  is incomplete.  $(L^2([a, b]), \|\cdot\|_2)$  is complete. Where,

$$L^2([a, b]) := \left\{ f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : \int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx < \infty \right\}$$

## 2 Approximation of "Vectors"

We now "say" the **least square estimation** is our **best approximation**.

Let  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  be an inner product space,  $v \in V$  and  $B = e_k$  an orthonormal system in  $V$ . We seek to approximate a vector  $v$  using a linear combination of the first  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  elements (or as many as you can...) of the orthonormal system:

$$v \approx \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i e_i, \quad \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N \in \mathbb{F}$$

Our approximation is the best when the following "error" is minimized:

$$\left\| v - \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i e_i \right\|^2$$

**Fourier analysis** is acting exactly in the same way to find an estimation...

And we choose the inner product space to be  $(L^2([a, b]), \|\cdot\|_2)$ . So you will notice, it's generally helpful to represent periodic functions.

Which region  $[a, b]$  do we choose?

Which orthonormal system do we choose? Four different choices. Keep in mind it is affected by the region you choose.

**A Tricky Question:**

Recall **The Method of Frobenius**, do you find any similarities in the methods?

## 3 Fourier Analysis

### 3.1 Basic Definitions about "Measure"

- A set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$  is said to have
  - **measure less than**  $\varepsilon$  if...
  - **measure zero** if...
- A property is said to hold **almost everywhere** (abbreviated by a.e.) on a subset  $D \subset \mathbb{R}$  if...
- The set  $\Omega = \mathbb{Q}$  of rational numbers has measure zero.

(One of) Our next goal:

Find some (Fourier) **series**  $f'$  equal to a **function**  $f$  almost everywhere within certain region.

### 3.2 The Fourier-Euler Basis

If you choose  $[a, b] = [-\pi, \pi]$ , then since the below **trigonometric polynomials** forms an orthonormal basis of  $L^2([-\pi, \pi])$ , we can choose it as the **Fourier-Euler Basis**.

$$\mathcal{B}_G = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cos(nx), \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \sin(nx) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

1. You can just use the first several terms to form a **Fourier-Euler expansion** of any  $f \in L^2([-\pi, \pi])$  by projecting onto the first several vectors in this basis.
2. You can also form a **Fourier Series**  $f'$  which is a linear combination of "every" vectors in the basis, and equals to  $f \in L^2([-\pi, \pi])$  **almost every where**.  $f'$  is gained by projecting onto each vector in this basis.

If you choose  $[a, b] = [0, L]$ , then the **Fourier-Euler Basis** can be

$$\mathcal{B}_1 := \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right), \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

**Exercise:**

If possible, uniquely expand  $f(x) = x^2, 0 < x < 2\pi$  in a Fourier series if (a) the period is  $2\pi$ , (b) the period is not specified.

**Exercise:**

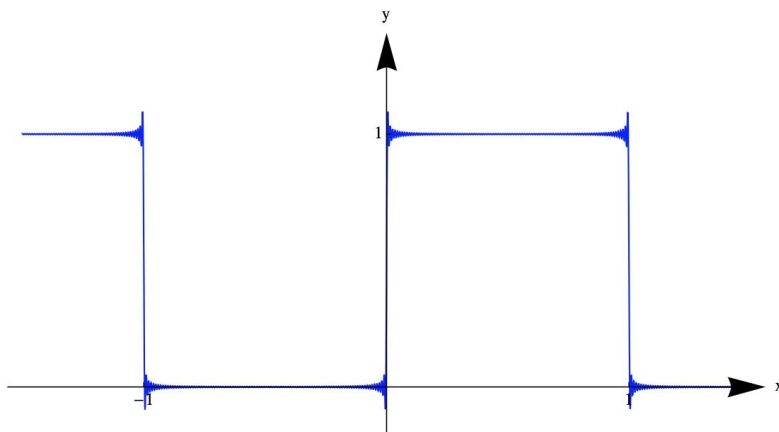
Using the results of the last exercise to prove

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

### 3.2.1 The Gibbs Phenomenon

A **Fourier series** may not and does not need to **converge uniformly**. The occurrence of these **peaks** of  $f'$  at the **discontinuities** of  $f$  is known as the **Gibbs phenomenon**.

Recall "uniform convergence".



### 3.2.2 Convergence of Fourier Series(Dirichlet's rule)

1. On any sub-interval  $[a', b'] \subset [a, b]$  with  $a' > a, b' < b$  on which  $f$  is continuous, the **Fourier series converges uniformly** towards  $f$ .
2. At any point  $x \in [a, b]$ , we have the pointwise limit: when  $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$S_N(x) \longrightarrow \frac{\lim_{y \nearrow x} f(y) + \lim_{y \searrow x} f(y)}{2}$$

Actually the second point needs certain conditions () to hold, but we don't discuss them in W286.

### 3.3 The Fourier-Cosine Basis

Cosine functions are even.

- For even functions, we can just use Cosine functions to expand.
- For functions which is not even, we can just use Cosine functions to find its even part.

If you choose  $[a, b] = [0, L]$ , then the **Fourier-Cosine Basis** can be

$$\mathcal{B}_2 := \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \cos\left(\frac{\pi n x}{L}\right) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

### 3.4 The Fourier-Sine Basis

Since functions are odd.

- For odd functions, we can just use Sine functions to expand.
- For functions which is not even, we can just use Cosine functions to find its odd part.

If you choose  $[a, b] = [0, L]$ , then the **Fourier-Sine Basis** can be

$$\mathcal{B}_3 := \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi n x}{L}\right) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

#### A Tricky Question:

For an arbitrary  $f \in L^2([a, b])$ , if you expand it using the the Fourier-Cosine Basis and the Fourier-Sine Basis separately with  $\infty$  terms, and obtain series  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , would  $f_1 + f_2$  and  $f$  becomes equal almost every where?

It's interesting to see knowledge links to each other, does this remind you of any fundamental theorems you have seen before?

#### Exercise:

Explain why any function  $F(x)$  is a sum of an even function and an odd function in just one way.

Explain why any odd function  $f(x)$  would has its Fourier cosine series be 0.

### A Tricky Question:

Can the following question be solved?

Expand  $f(x) = \sin x$ ,  $0 < x < \pi$ , in a Fourier cosine series.

### Exercise:

Expand  $f(x) = x$ ,  $0 < x < 2$ , in a half range (a) sine series, (b) cosine series.

**Hint:** Can you first "extend"  $f$  a little bit?

Just a reminder before the last part,  $L^2([a, b]) := \left\{ f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : \int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx < \infty \right\}$  is defined to contain **complex valued functions of a real variable**, not the same as **complex functions**.

## 3.5 Complex Fourier-Euler Basis

If you choose  $[a, b] = [-\pi, \pi]$ , then the following would also be a basis of  $L^2([a, b])$ , simply because you can change basis with the Fourier-Euler Basis which we discussed above.

$$\mathcal{B}_G = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{inx} \right\}_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}$$

So you can also do orthogonal projection onto each vector of this basis to find an approximation. No matter whether  $f$  is real valued or not, since just the  $\lambda_i$  might be complex numbers.

## 4 Additional Practice

### Exercise:

Find a Fourier series for  $f(x) = \cos \alpha x$ ,  $-\pi < x < \pi$ , where  $\alpha \neq 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots$

**Hint:** Can you first "extend"  $f$  a little bit?



**Exercise:**

Prove that

$$\sin x = x \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{\pi^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{(2\pi)^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{(3\pi)^2}\right) \dots$$

**Hint:**

Use the results from the previous exercise.