

**QUESTION:** What does it mean for a sequence of functions to converge pointwise?

$f_n \rightarrow f$  pointwise on domain  $D$  means that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$  for all  $x$  in  $D$ .

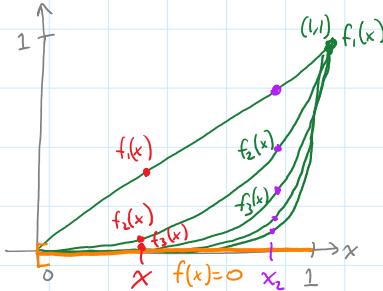
**EXAMPLE:** let  $f_n(x) = x^n$ ,  $f(x) = 0$ , and  $D = [0, 1]$  interval

$$f_1(x) = x$$

$$f_2(x) = x^2$$

$$f_3(x) = x^3$$

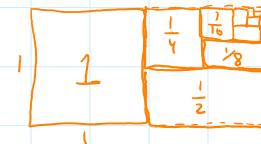
:



**FOR A SERIES:**  $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x)$  means  $f(x) = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^M f_n(x)$  for all  $x \in D$

**EXAMPLE:**  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \frac{1}{1-x}$  on  $(0, 1)$   $\leftarrow$  pointwise convergence of a series of functions

for example:  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ :  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \dots = 2$



## FOURIER SERIES:

The Fourier series of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $-L \leq x \leq L$  is:

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

$\nwarrow$  "has the Fourier series"

where  $a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx$ ,  $a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx$ ,  $b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx$

## CONVERGENCE THEOREM:

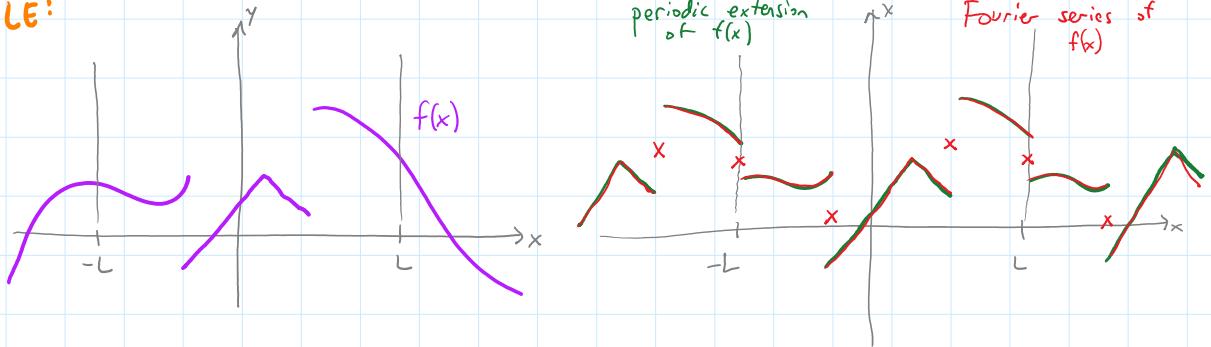
\* If  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  are continuous, with the possible exception of finitely many jump discontinuities, on  $-L \leq x \leq L$ , then the Fourier series of  $f$  converges:

- to the periodic extension of  $f(x)$ , where this extension is continuous,

- to  $\frac{1}{2}[f(x+) + f(x-)]$  if  $f$  has a jump discontinuity at  $x$ .

\*Terminology: Haberman says "piecewise smooth"; others say "piecewise  $C^1$ "

### EXAMPLE:



# Fourier Series

Math 330

Download a copy of this notebook that you can run in Mathematica at [https://www.mrlwright.org/teaching/math330f19/other/fourier\\_series\\_coefficients.nb](https://www.mrlwright.org/teaching/math330f19/other/fourier_series_coefficients.nb).

Throughout this file, Fourier series coefficients are denoted as follows:

$$a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right)$$

The formulas for the coefficients are:

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx \quad \text{and} \quad b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx \quad \text{for } n > 1$$

## 1. $f(x) = x$

In[1]:=  $f[x_] := x$

The cosine coefficients  $a_n$  are all zero since  $f(x)$  is an odd function.

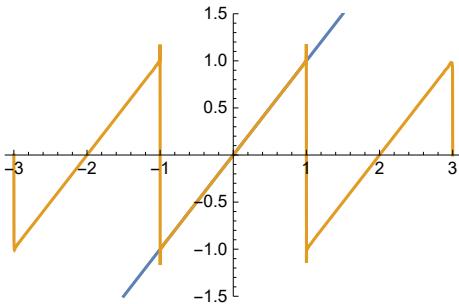
The sine coefficients  $b_n$  are:

In[2]:=  $b[n_] =$   
Simplify[ $1/L * \text{Integrate}[f[x] * \text{Sin}[n * \text{Pi} * x / L], \{x, -L, L\}]$ , Assumptions  $\rightarrow n \in \text{Integers}$ ]  
Out[2]=  $-\frac{2 (-1)^n L}{n \pi}$

Plot of partial sum with  $L = 1$ :

In[4]:=  $\text{Plot}[\{x, \text{Sum}[(b[n] /. L \rightarrow 1) * \text{Sin}[n * \text{Pi} * x], \{n, 1, 1000\}]\}, \{x, -3, 3\}, \text{PlotRange} \rightarrow \{-1.5, 1.5\}]$

Out[4]=



## 2. $f(x) = |x|$

In[ $\#$ ]:=  $f[x_] := \text{Abs}[x]$

The sine coefficients  $b_n$  are all zero since  $f(x)$  is an even function.

The constant coefficients  $a_0$  is:

In[ $\#$ ]:=  $a[0] = 1 / (2L) * \text{Integrate}[f[x], \{x, -L, L\}, \text{Assumptions} \rightarrow \{L \in \text{Reals}, L > 0\}]$

$$\text{Out}[f\#]= \frac{L}{2}$$

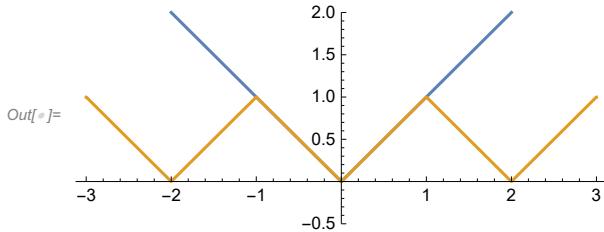
The cosine coefficients  $a_n$  are:

In[ $\#$ ]:=  $a[n_] = \text{Simplify}[1/L * \text{Integrate}[f[x] * \text{Cos}[n \pi x / L], \{x, -L, L\}], \text{Assumptions} \rightarrow \{n \in \text{Integers}, L > 0\}]$

$$\text{Out}[f\#]= \frac{2(-1 + (-1)^n)L}{n^2 \pi^2}$$

Plot of partial sum with  $L = 1$ :

In[ $\#$ ]:=  $\text{Plot}[\{f[x], (a[0] /. L \rightarrow 1) + \text{Sum}[(a[n] /. L \rightarrow 1) * \text{Cos}[n \pi x], \{n, 1, 100\}]\}, \{x, -3, 3\}, \text{PlotRange} \rightarrow \{-0.5, 2\}]$



## 3. $f(x) = 3x - 1$

In[ $\#$ ]:=  $f[x_] := 3x - 1$

The constant coefficients  $a_0$  is:

In[ $\#$ ]:=  $a[0] = 1 / (2L) * \text{Integrate}[f[x], \{x, -L, L\}]$

$$\text{Out}[f\#]= -1$$

The cosine coefficients  $a_n$  are zero:

In[ $\#$ ]:=  $a[n_] = \text{Simplify}[1/L * \text{Integrate}[f[x] * \text{Cos}[n \pi x / L], \{x, -L, L\}], \text{Assumptions} \rightarrow \{n \in \text{Integers}, L > 0\}]$

$$\text{Out}[f\#]= 0$$

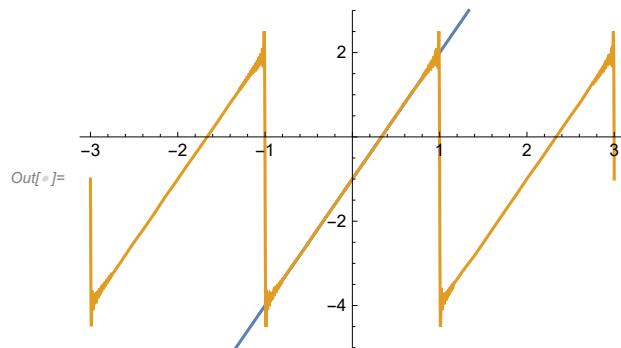
The sine coefficients  $b_n$  are:

```
In[1]:= b[n_] = Simplify[1/L * Integrate[f[x] * Sin[n * Pi * x / L], {x, -L, L}], Assumptions -> {n ∈ Integers, L > 0}]
```

$$\text{Out}[1]= -\frac{6 (-1)^n L}{n \pi}$$

Plot of partial sum with  $L = 1$ :

```
In[2]:= Plot[{f[x], a[0] + Sum[(b[n] /. L → 1) * Sin[n * Pi * x], {n, 1, 100}]}, {x, -3, 3}, PlotRange → {-5, 3}]
```



## 4. $f(x) = x^2$

```
In[3]:= f[x_] := x^2
```

The constant coefficients  $a_0$  is:

```
In[4]:= a[0] = 1 / (2 L) * Integrate[f[x], {x, -L, L}]
```

$$\text{Out}[4]= \frac{L^2}{3}$$

The cosine coefficients  $a_n$  are:

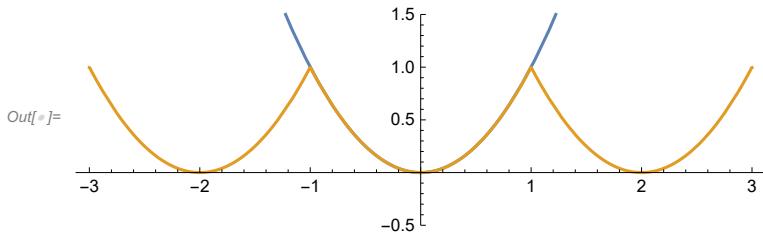
```
In[5]:= a[n_] = Simplify[1/L * Integrate[f[x] * Cos[n * Pi * x / L], {x, -L, L}], Assumptions -> {n ∈ Integers, L > 0}]
```

$$\text{Out}[5]= \frac{4 (-1)^n L^2}{n^2 \pi^2}$$

The sine coefficients  $b_n$  are zero since  $f(x)$  is an even function.

Plot of partial sum with  $L = 1$ :

```
In[6]:= Plot[ {f[x], (a[0] /. L -> 1) + Sum[ (a[n] /. L -> 1) * Cos[n * Pi * x], {n, 1, 100}]}, {x, -3, 3}, PlotRange -> {-0.5, 1.5}]
```



## 5. $f(x) = 1 \text{ if } x \geq 0, -1 \text{ if } x < 0$

```
In[7]:= f[x_] := Piecewise[{{1, x ≥ 0}, {-1, x < 0}}]
```

The cosine coefficients  $a_n$  are zero because  $f(x)$  is an odd function.

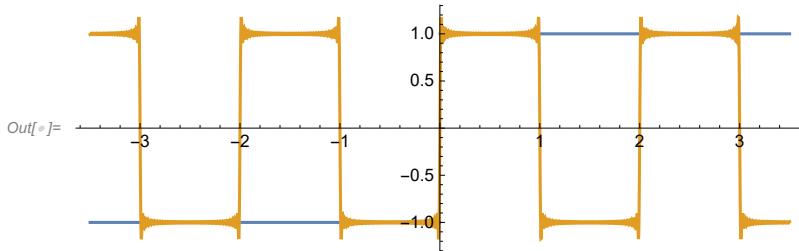
The sine coefficients  $b_n$  are:

```
In[8]:= b[n_] = Simplify[  
  1/L * Integrate[f[x] * Sin[n * Pi * x / L], {x, -L, L}, Assumptions -> {L ∈ Reals, L > 0}],  
  Assumptions -> {n ∈ Integers}]
```

Out[8]= 
$$-\frac{2(-1 + (-1)^n)}{n\pi}$$

Plot of partial sum with  $L = 1$ :

```
In[9]:= Plot[ {f[x], Sum[b[n] * Sin[n * Pi * x], {n, 1, 80}]}, {x, -3.5, 3.5}]
```



## 6. $f(x) = |\sin(x)|$

For this problem, we will assume that  $L = \pi$ . (Otherwise, the integrals are messy.)

```
In[10]:= f[x_] := Abs[Sin[x]]
```

The constant coefficient  $a_0$ :

```
In[11]:= a[0] = 1 / (2 Pi) * Integrate[f[x], {x, -Pi, Pi}]
```

Out[11]= 
$$\frac{2}{\pi}$$

The cosine coefficients  $a_n$  if  $n > 1$ :

```
In[6]:= a[n_] =
Simplify[1/Pi * Integrate[f[x] * Cos[n*x], {x, -Pi, Pi}], Assumptions -> {n ∈ Integers}]
Out[6]= -2 (1 + (-1)^n)
(-1 + n^2) π
```

The sine coefficients  $b_n$  are zero because  $f(x)$  is an even function.

Plot of partial sum:

```
In[7]:= Plot[{f[x], a[0] + Sum[a[n] * Cos[n*x], {n, 2, 20}]}, {x, -3 Pi, 3 Pi}, Ticks -> {Range[-3 Pi, 3 Pi, Pi], Automatic}]
```

