

Fourier Series

Periodic Functions

The Mathematic Formulation

- Any function that satisfies

$$f(t) = f(t + T)$$

where T is a constant and is called the *period* of the function.

Example:

$$f(t) = \cos \frac{t}{3} + \cos \frac{t}{4} \quad \text{Find its period.}$$

$$f(t) = f(t+T) \longrightarrow \cos \frac{t}{3} + \cos \frac{t}{4} = \cos \frac{1}{3}(t+T) + \cos \frac{1}{4}(t+T)$$

Fact: $\cos \theta = \cos(\theta + 2m\pi)$

$$\begin{array}{l} \frac{T}{3} = 2m\pi \\ \frac{T}{4} = 2n\pi \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} T = 6m\pi \\ T = 8n\pi \end{array} \longrightarrow T = 24\pi \quad \text{smallest } T$$

Example:

$$f(t) = \cos \omega_1 t + \cos \omega_2 t \quad \text{Find its period.}$$

$$f(t) = f(t+T) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \cos \omega_1 t + \cos \omega_2 t = \cos \omega_1 (t+T) + \cos \omega_2 (t+T)$$

$$\omega_1 T = 2m\pi$$

$$\omega_2 T = 2n\pi$$



$$\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} = \frac{m}{n}$$

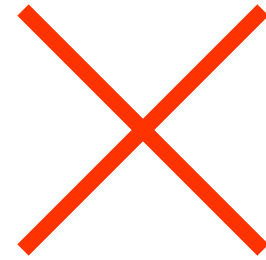


$\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2}$ must be a
rational number

Example:

$$f(t) = \cos 10t + \cos(10 + \pi)t$$

Is this function a periodic one?



$$\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} = \frac{10}{10 + \pi}$$

not a rational
number

Orthogonal set of Sinusoidal Functions

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1, \\ \cos \omega_0 t, \cos 2\omega_0 t, \cos 3\omega_0 t, \dots \\ \sin \omega_0 t, \sin 2\omega_0 t, \sin 3\omega_0 t, \dots \end{array} \right\}$$

an orthogonal set.

Define $\omega_0 = 2\pi/T$.

$$\int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \cos(m\omega_0 t) dt = 0, \quad m \neq 0$$

$$\int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \sin(m\omega_0 t) dt = 0, \quad m \neq 0$$

$$\int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \cos(m\omega_0 t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt = \begin{cases} 0 & m \neq n \\ T/2 & m = n \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \sin(m\omega_0 t) \sin(n\omega_0 t) dt = \begin{cases} 0 & m \neq n \\ T/2 & m = n \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \sin(m\omega_0 t) \cos(n\omega_0 t) dt = 0, \quad \text{for all } m \text{ and } n$$