

MA22S3 Tutorial Sheet 3.¹²

21 October 2009

Useful facts:

- **Trigonometric identities:** products

$$\begin{aligned}\cos A \cos B &= \frac{1}{2}[\cos(A - B) + \cos(A + B)] \\ \sin A \sin B &= \frac{1}{2}[\cos(A - B) - \cos(A + B)] \\ \sin A \cos B &= \frac{1}{2}[\sin(A + B) + \sin(A - B)].\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

- **Trigonometric identities:** double angles

$$\begin{aligned}\sin^2 A &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2A) \\ \cos^2 A &= \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2A)\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

- A function $f(t)$ has period L if $f(t + L) = f(t)$, it is odd if $f(-t) = -f(t)$ and even if $f(-t) = f(t)$.
- A function with period L has the Fourier series expansion

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nt}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nt}{L}\right).$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}a_0 &= \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} f(t) dt \\ a_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} f(t) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nt}{L}\right) dt \\ b_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} f(t) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nt}{L}\right) dt\end{aligned}$$

¹Conor Houghton, houghton@maths.tcd.ie, see also <http://www.maths.tcd.ie/~houghton/MA22S3>

²Including material from Chris Ford, to whom many thanks.

Questions

1. (4) $f(t) = \cos t$ for $-\pi/2 < t < \pi/2$ and zero for $-\pi < t < -\pi/2$ and $\pi > t > \pi/2$. It is periodic with period 2π . What is the Fourier series.
2. (2) What is the period of $\sin^2 t$ and $\sin^3 t$.
3. (2) Find the Fourier series for $\sin^3 t$; a quick way to do this is to regard it as a trigonometry problem, rather than a Fourier series problem, that is use the trigonometric identities to express it in terms of sines and cosines, rather than doing all the integrals: so start by writing $\sin^3 t = \sin^2 t \sin t$ and then write $\sin^2 t$ in terms of $\cos 2t$.