

Answer on Question #76068 – Math – Calculus

Question

Obtain the Fourier series for the following periodic function which has a period of 2π : $f(x)=x^2$ for $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$

Solution

$$f(x) = x^2$$

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(nx) + b_n \sin(nx))$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{1}{3\pi} x^3 \Big|_{x=-\pi}^{x=\pi} = \frac{2}{3}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \cos(nx) dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{2x \cos(nx)}{n^2} + \frac{(n^2 x^2 - 2) \sin(nx)}{n^3} \right) \Big|_{x=-\pi}^{x=\pi} = \frac{4}{n^2} \cos(\pi n) = \frac{4}{n^2} (-1)^n. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \sin(nx) dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{2x \sin(nx)}{n^2} - \frac{(n^2 x^2 - 2) \cos(nx)}{n^3} \right) \Big|_{x=-\pi}^{x=\pi} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos(nx).$$

$$\textbf{Answer: } f(x) = \frac{1}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos(nx).$$