

(iv) Fourier series on  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$

Math 4FT

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Paul 7, 2013

The principal task today is to give coordinates to the Hilbert space

$$L^2(\mathbb{T}^1) = \{f(x) : \int_0^{2\pi} |f(x)|^2 dx < +\infty\}$$

Recall that this space has a norm (a distance function to zero) given by a scalar product.

$$(f, g) = \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx, \quad \|f\| = \sqrt{\int_0^{2\pi} |f(x)|^2 dx} = \sqrt{(f, f)}.$$

We defined angles in terms of the scalar product

$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{(f, g)}{\|f\| \|g\|}$$

and we say that  $f$  and  $g$  are orthogonal when  $(f, g) = 0$ .

Defn 1: A family of functions  $\{f_j(x)\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  is an orthogonal family when any two are orthogonal

$$(f_j, f_k) = 0 \quad j \neq k.$$

and orthonormal when

$$(f_j, f_j) = \|f_j\|^2 = 1.$$

Note: As long as no  $f_j \equiv 0$ , we may always normalize an orthogonal family to be an orthonormal as:

$$f_n(x) \rightarrow g_n(x) = \frac{1}{\|f_n\|} f_n(x), \quad \|g_n\| = 1.$$

The set of functions  $\{g(x) \in L^2 : \|g\| = 1\} = \mathbb{S}^{\infty}$ , the unit sphere of  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$ . It is not compact.

Note: The  $L^2$ -distance between any two orthonormal functions

is  $\sqrt{2}$ ; indeed

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_1 - g_2\|^2 &= \left( \int_0^{2\pi} |g_1(x) - g_2(x)|^2 dx \right) \\ &= (g_1, g_1) - 2\operatorname{Re}(g_1, g_2) + (g_2, g_2) = 2. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2: The complex exponentials  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{ikh}$  are an orthonormal family.

proof: integrate.  $(e_j, e_k) = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{i(j-k)x} dx = \begin{cases} 1 & j=k \\ \frac{e^{i(j-k)x}}{2\pi i(j-k)} \Big|_0^{2\pi} = 0 & \text{when } j \neq k. \end{cases}$

A family  $\{f_j(x)\}_{j=1,2,\dots}$  spans  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$  if the finite linear combinations

$\left\{ \sum_{j=1}^N c_j f_j(x) : c_j \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$  are dense in  $L^2$ ;  
 that is,  $\forall f \in L^2 \forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \{c_j\} : \|f - \sum_{j=1}^N c_j f_j\| < \epsilon$ .

Definition 3: A basis for  $L^2$  is an orthonormal family which spans  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$ .

The goal of this next part is to show that our family given by the Fourier ~~series~~ <sup>exponentials</sup>  $\left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{ikh} \right\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} = \{e_{nk}\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$  are a basis for  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$ .

Theorem 4 (least square approximation) Let  $\{g_n\}_{n=1,2,\dots}$  be any orthonormal family in  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$ . For any  $f \in L^2$  and any  $N \geq 1$ , and any complex vector  $C \in \mathbb{C}^N$ ,

$$\|f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j\| \leq \|f - \sum_{j=1}^N c_j g_j\|.$$

The lower bound given by the LHS is achieved only with  $c_j = (f, g_j)$ ,  $\forall 1 \leq j \leq N$ .

The coefficients  $(f, g_j)$  are called the "generalized Fourier coefficients" of  $f(x)$ . When  $g_j = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{ijx}$ , then  $(f, g_j) = \hat{f}_j$  are the actual Fourier coefficients of  $f(x)$ .

proof (of Thm 4) Write the RHS as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - \sum_{j=1}^N c_j g_j\|^2 &= \left\| \left( f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j \right) + \sum_{j=1}^N ((f, g_j) - c_j) g_j \right\|^2 \\ &= \left\| \left( f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j \right) \right\|^2 + 2 \operatorname{re} \left( f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j, \sum_{j=1}^N ((f, g_j) - c_j) g_j \right) \\ &\quad + \left\| \sum_{j=1}^N ((f, g_j) - c_j) g_j \right\|^2 \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

The middle term is computed as

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \operatorname{re} \sum_{j=1}^N ((f, g_j) - c_j) \left( f - \sum_{k=1}^N (f, g_k) g_k, g_j \right) \\ = 2 \operatorname{re} \sum_{j=1}^N ((f, g_j) - c_j) \underbrace{\left[ (f, g_j) - \sum_{k=1}^N (f, g_k) (g_k, g_j) \right]}_{=0} \\ = 0 \end{aligned}$$

We are left with

$$\begin{aligned} \|f - \sum_{j=1}^N c_j g_j\|^2 &= \left\| \left( f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j \right) \right\|^2 \\ &\quad + \left\| \sum_{j=1}^N ((f, g_j) - c_j) g_j \right\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

The last term can be expressed w.r.t. the Pythagorean theorem

$$0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^N |(f, g_j) - c_j|^2$$

Hence the inequality

$$\|f - \sum_{j=1}^N c_j g_j\|^2 \geq \left\| \left( f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j \right) \right\|^2,$$

with equality only if all  $c_j = (f, g_j)$ .

Coordinates - Claim:  $\{g_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  an orthonormal family as above, and take any sequence  $c = (c_j)_{j=1}^\infty \in \ell^2(\mathbb{R}^+)$ , the sequence of partial sums

$$f_N(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j g_j(x)$$

is a Cauchy sequence in  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$ . Hence it converges to some  $f \in L^2$ ,

$$\text{where } f = \sum_{j=1}^\infty c_j g_j \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Furthermore } \|f\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^\infty |c_j|^2 = \|c\|_{\ell^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}^2$$

proof of these statements:

(1) Cauchy:  $\|f_N(x) - f_M(x)\|^2 = \left\| \sum_{j=N+1}^M c_j g_j \right\|^2 = \sum_{j=N+1}^M |c_j|^2 \rightarrow 0$   
 with  $N, M \rightarrow \infty$

(2) The limit  $f_M(x) - f_N(x) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} (f_M(x) - f_N(x))$   
 $= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{N+1 \leq j \leq M} c_j g_j(x) \rightarrow 0$  in  $L^2$

(3) Parseval:  $\|f\|^2 = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \|f_N\|^2 = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=1}^N |c_j|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |c_j|^2 = \|c\|_{\ell^2}^2$

Theorem 5: Given any orthonormal family  $\{g_j(x)\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ , the

$$0 \leq \|f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j\|^2 = \|f\|^2 - \sum_{j=1}^N |(f, g_j)|^2$$

This is one way to state Bessel's inequality, that

$$\sum_{j=1}^N |(f, g_j)|^2 \leq \|f\|^2 \quad \forall N, \text{ and it holds in the limit as well.}$$

If  $\{g_j(x)\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  is an orthonormal basis then as well

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |(f, g_j)|^2 = \|f\|^2$$

proof: We have already done the calculation <sup>(\*)</sup> = Bessel's inequality, which shows that LHS = RHS = Theorem 5. This holds for any  $N$ , and the limit holds for the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

If  $\{g_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  is an orthonormal basis, then  <sup>$\forall \epsilon > 0$</sup>  there exist  $\{N_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  such that

$$\|f - \sum_{j=1}^N (f, g_j) g_j\|^2 \leq \|f - \sum_{j=1}^N c_j g_j\|^2 < \epsilon,$$

and we have shown that the LHS =  $\|f\|^2 - \sum_{j=1}^N |(f, g_j)|^2$ .  
 Therefore, as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\{c_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  are imposed, the two terms of the LHS converge to each other.

Theorem 6 The orthonormal family  $\{e_j(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{ijx}\}$  is a basis.

proof: We will argue using the Dirichlet kernel  $D_n(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\sin((n+\frac{1}{2})x)}{\sin(x/2)}$  using the theorem of Dirichlet.

• For any  $f \in C^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$  the partial sums  $S_n(f)(x) = \sum_{|k| \leq n} \hat{f}_k \frac{e^{ikx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$  converge uniformly to  $f(x)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

The proof is now in two steps. First, we prove that  $C^2(\mathbb{T}^1) \subseteq L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$  and it is dense. Secondly, we show that any function  $f \in C^2$  can be approximated (in the  $L^2$  sense) by finite sums of complex exponentials  $e_n(x) = \frac{e^{inx}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ , i.e. an orthonormal family.

Proof of the first fact:

Lemma 7 Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , for each  $f \in L^2$  there is an approximation  $g \in C^2$  such that  $\|f - g\| < \epsilon/2$ .

The proof of this is deferred until we study convolution, in the next section.

Proof of the second fact: Let  $f \in C^2$  and let  $N \geq 1$  be sufficiently large so that

$$\sup_x |S_n(f)(x) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \quad \forall n \geq N.$$

This is possible by Dirichlet's theorem. Then we check the  $L^2$  norm of the difference

$$\|S_n(f) - f\| = \left( \int_0^{2\pi} |S_n(f) - f|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \leq \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\epsilon^2}{4(2\pi)} dx \right)^{1/2} = \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

6)

Given these two elements we can complete the proof of Thm 6, in which we need to show that finite linear combinations of the (orthonormal) family  $\{e_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{inx}\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  are dense.

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ ; given any  $f \in L^2$  choose  $g \in C^2$  such that  $\|f - g\| < \varepsilon/2$ ,

by Lemma 7. Now approximate  $|S_N(g) - g| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2\sqrt{2\pi}}$  by Dirichlet's theorem. Thus

$$\|f - S_N(g)\| \leq \|f - g\| + \|g - S_N(g)\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon \quad \square$$

# (v) convolution operators

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Nov 11, 2012

A motivation for the material in this section is to prove Lemma 7 of the last section.

Definition 1: Given periodic functions  $f, g \in L^1(\mathbb{T}^1)$  we may define the convolution product

$$(f * g)(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x-y)g(y) dy$$

This can be thought of as a "weighted average" of the values of  $f(x)$  by the "distribution"  $g(x)$ .

Proposition 2: (Elementary properties of the convolution product)

- (i)  $f * g(x) = g * f(x)$  commutativity
- (ii)  $f \mapsto g * f$  is a linear map in  $f$
- (iii)  $(f * g) * h = f * (g * h)$  associativity
- (iv) Fourier transform  $\widehat{(f * g)}_h = \hat{f}_h \hat{g}_h$
- (v) When both  $f, g \in L^1(\mathbb{T}^1)$  then  $f * g(x) \in C(\mathbb{T}^1)$   
(well, maybe this is not so elementary)

proofs: (i)  $(f * g)(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x-y)g(y) dy$   
 setting  $\gamma = x-y$  is a change of variables  
 $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\gamma)g(x-\gamma) d\gamma = (g * f)(x)$   $\square$

(iv)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-ikh} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x-y)g(y) dy \right) dx$   
 $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-ik(x-y)} f(x-y) dx \right) e^{-iky} g(y) dy$   
 $= \hat{f}_h \hat{g}_h$   $\square$

An additional elementary property:

- (vi) If  $f \in L^2$  and  $g \in C^p$  o.s.p., then  $f * g \in C^p$ .

proof of (vi)  $\partial_x^p (f * g) = \partial_x^p \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} g(x-y) f(y) dy$

$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} (\partial_x^p g)(x-y) f(y) dy$

therefore the case  $p \geq 1$  reduces to the case  $p=0$ , that is, where  $g \in C^0(\mathbb{T}^1)$ .

Take such  $g \in C^0$ ; since  $\mathbb{T}^1$  is compact, uniform continuity is automatic for continuous functions. That is, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is  $\delta > 0$  such that for any  $|x_1 - x_2| < \delta$  the  $|g(x_1) - g(x_2)| < \varepsilon$ .

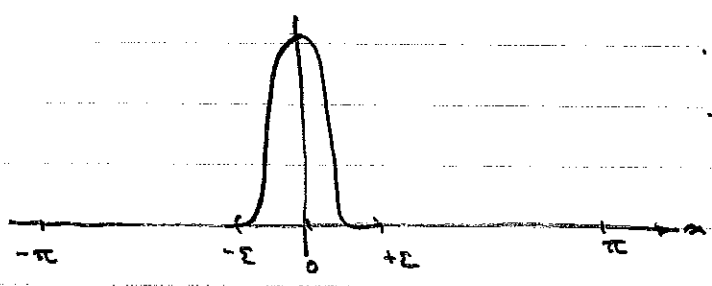
Consider

$$\begin{aligned} & |(f * g)(x_1) - (f * g)(x_2)| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} (g(x_1 - y) - g(x_2 - y)) f(y) dy \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} |g(x_1 - y) - g(x_2 - y)| |f(y)| dy \\ &\text{by Cauchy-Schwarz} \\ &\leq \varepsilon \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} dy \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} |f(y)|^2 dy \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \varepsilon \|f\| \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(f * g)(x)$  is continuous in  $x$ . □

Approximation of the identity.

Take a special family (or class of families) of  $C^2$  functions;  $g_\varepsilon \in C^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$  looking like this



- $g_\varepsilon > 0$
- $\text{supp}(g_\varepsilon) \subset [-\varepsilon, \varepsilon]$
- $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} g_\varepsilon(x) dx = 1$

Note that  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (\hat{g}_\varepsilon)_k = 1$  for all  $k$ , indeed



$$\left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} g_\varepsilon(x) e^{-ikhx} dx - 1 \right| = \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\varepsilon}^{\varepsilon} g_\varepsilon(x) (e^{-ikhx} - 1) dx \right|$$

$$\leq \sup_{-\varepsilon < x < \varepsilon} |e^{-ikhx} - 1|$$

and this is close to zero  
when  $\varepsilon \ll 1/k$ .

Handy  $\Rightarrow$  These families are approximations to Dirac- $\delta$ -functions.

Lemma 3 (translation is continuous in  $L^2$ ) For any  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{T}^1)$

$$\lim_{\gamma \rightarrow 0} \|f(\cdot - \gamma) - f(\cdot)\| = \lim_{\gamma \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} |f(x-\gamma) - f(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} = 0.$$

Assume this for a moment, we will finish the proof of last section, that for each  $f \in L^2$ , there is a  $C^\infty$  approximation  $h$   
 $\|h - f\| < \varepsilon$ .

We want to show that, using a family  $g_\varepsilon$  of approximate identities, that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} g_\varepsilon(x-\gamma) f(x) dy \xrightarrow{L^2} f(x) \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

Take a test function  $h(x) \in L^2$ , we will show that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} h(x) \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} g_\varepsilon(x-\gamma) f(x) dy - f(x) \right] dx \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$$

Indeed

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} h(x) \left[ \int_0^{2\pi} g_\varepsilon(y) (f(x-\gamma) - f(x)) dy \right] dx$$

exchanging integrals

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} g_\varepsilon(y) \left[ \int_0^{2\pi} h(x) (f(x-\gamma) - f(x)) dx \right] dy$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\varepsilon}^{+\varepsilon} g_\varepsilon(y) \|h\| \|f(\cdot - \gamma) - f(\cdot)\| dy$$

$$= \|h\| \|f(\cdot - \gamma) - f(\cdot)\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

This is good practice, but not quite enough for the result we want.

(4)

Now take on

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_\varepsilon * f - f\|^2 &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} g(x-y) (f(y) - f(x)) dy \right|^2 dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} g(x-y) (f(y) - f(x)) dy \right) \overline{\left( \int_0^{2\pi} g(x-z) (f(z) - f(x)) dz \right)} dx \end{aligned}$$

Interchanging integrals, and changing variables as above,

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g(y) \overline{g(z)} \left[ \int_0^{2\pi} (f(x-y) - f(x)) \overline{(f(x-z) - f(x))} dx \right] dy dz \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\varepsilon}^{\varepsilon} \int_{-\varepsilon}^{\varepsilon} g(y) \overline{g(z)} \|f(\cdot - y) - f(\cdot)\| \|f(\cdot - z) - f(\cdot)\| \end{aligned}$$

and this  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  by Lemma 3.Hence Lemma 3 is used to finish our proof of density of  $C^1 \cap L^2$  in Lemma 7. of section 3 (iv).

We have to go back to prove Lemma 3 on the continuity of translation. This takes us back to Lebesgue theory.

Approximation theorems for  $f \in L^2$  or  $L^1$ , by

(1) step functions

(2) continuous functions.

In fact these also hold for any  $f \in L^p$   $1 \leq p < +\infty$ , where

$$L^p = \left\{ f \text{ measurable} : \underbrace{\left( \int_0^{2\pi} |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}}_{\|\cdot\|_p} < +\infty \right\}.$$

Step functions: Given  $f \in L^p$   $1 \leq p < +\infty$  and given  $\varepsilon > 0$ there is  $f_n$  bounded such that

$$\|f - f_n\|_p < \varepsilon.$$

proof: (we'll do the case  $p=2$ ) Set  $f_n(x) = \begin{cases} \pi & \text{if } f(x) \geq \pi \\ f(x) & \text{if } -\pi \leq f(x) \leq \pi \\ -\pi & \text{if } f(x) < -\pi \end{cases}$

The Chebyshev inequality states that

$$m(\{x: |f(x)| \geq \pi\}) \leq \frac{\int |f|^2}{\pi^2 \|f\|^2},$$

so  $|f(x)|$  is big only on small sets.

The pointwise limit  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$  a.s.

Since  $|f - f_n|^2 \leq |f|^2 := g(x)$  integrable,  
by the dominated convergence theorem

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{2\pi} |f - f_n|^2 dx = 0.$$

This is to say that  $f_n \xrightarrow{L^2} f$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Now choose a step function  $\varphi$  such that  $|f_n(x) - \varphi(x)| < \varepsilon, | \varphi(x) | < \pi$   
except on a set  $A$  of measure  $m(A) < \delta$ ;  
(This is a task for a measure theory class).

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_n - \varphi\|^2 &= \int_0^{2\pi} |f_n(x) - \varphi(x)|^2 dx \\ &= \int_A |f_n(x) - \varphi(x)|^2 dx + \int_{[0, 2\pi] \setminus A} |f_n(x) - \varphi(x)|^2 dx \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon^2 \pi^2 + 2\delta \pi^2, \end{aligned}$$

which can be made arbitrarily small.

Now we can compare translates.

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(\cdot - y) - f(\cdot)\| &\leq \|f(\cdot - y) - f_n(\cdot - y)\| + \|f_n(\cdot - y) - f_n(\cdot)\| \\ &\quad + \|f_n(\cdot) - f(\cdot)\| \\ \|f_n(x-y) - f_n(x)\| &\leq \|f_n(x-y) - \varphi(x-y)\| \\ &\quad + \|\varphi(x-y) - \varphi(x)\| \\ &\quad + \|\varphi(x) - f_n(x)\| \end{aligned}$$

Finally we touch upon the core of the matter, and it is to show that

$$\| \varphi(x-y) - \varphi(x) \| < \varepsilon \quad \text{for } |y| < \delta.$$

But  $\varphi(x)$  is a step function, a finite linear combination of constant functions over intervals,

$$\varphi_j(x) = c_j \chi_{[a_j, b_j]}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \int | \varphi_j(x-y) - \varphi_j(x) |^2 dx &= |c_j|^2 \int | \chi_{[a_j, b_j]}(x-y) - \chi_{[a_j, b_j]}(x) |^2 dx \\ &= |c_j|^2 \int ( \chi_{[a_j-y, b_j-y]} + \chi_{[a_j, b_j]} ) dx \leq 2|c_j|^2 |y|. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

We still have one item to discuss in this section, which is statement (ii) of Proposition 2; namely, if  $f, g \in L^1$  then  $f * g(x) \in C(\mathbb{T}^1)$ .

Firstly, we can quite easily show that whenever  $f, g \in L^1$  then  $f * g \in L^1$ . Indeed

$$\begin{aligned} \| f * g \|_{L^1} &= \int_0^{2\pi} | f * g(x) | dx = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left| \int_0^{2\pi} f(x-y) g(y) dy \right| dx \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} | f(x-y) | | g(y) | dx dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} | f(x-y) | dx \right) | g(y) | dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \| f \|_{L^1} \| g \|_{L^1}. \end{aligned}$$

We could say that  $L^1$  is an algebra of functions, with addition and convolution product as the two operations.

The statement of Proposition 2 is that more is known, that in fact  $f * g$  is continuous, not simply integrable. Here is a sketch of a proof.

$f(x)$  and  $g(x) \in L^1$

therefore there are bounded

$$f_n(x) \text{ and } g_n(x) \text{ with } \int |f - f_n| dx \text{ and } \int |g - g_n| dx < \epsilon/3$$

Next, there are step functions  $\phi(x)$  and  $\psi(x)$  such that

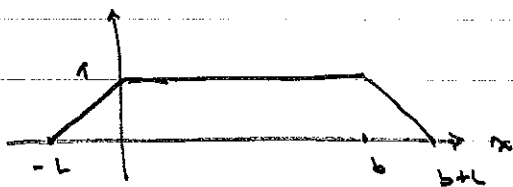
$$\int_0^{2\pi} |f_n(x) - \phi(x)| dx < \epsilon/3 \text{ and } \int_0^{2\pi} |g_n(x) - \psi(x)| dx < \epsilon/3$$

Each of  $\phi(x)$  and  $\psi(x)$  is a linear combination of <sup>indicator</sup> ~~step~~ functions over intervals  $\phi_j(x) = \epsilon_j \chi_{[a_j, b_j]}$   $\psi_j(x) = d_j \chi_{[c_j, f_j]}$

The crux is therefore, how do convolutions of indicator functions of intervals behave.

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \chi_{[a, b]}(x-y) \chi_{[c, f]}(y) dy$$

Q: how does this behave? Take  $[a, b] = [0, b]$ , and  $L = [c, f] \subset [0, b]$  (wlog), then here it is explicitly;



, (students should check).

(3) (vi) differential operators

Math 4 FT

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Th. Nov 14, 2013

Both differentiation and convolution are operations which respect translation, and therefore are nicely compatible with the Fourier transform.

Basic properties (review)

Proposition 1

(i)  $\widehat{\left(\frac{d}{dx} f\right)}_u = ik \widehat{f}_u$

(ii)  $\widehat{\left(e^{ikx} f\right)}_u = \widehat{f}_{u-k}$

(iii)  $\widehat{(f * g)}_u = \widehat{f}_u \widehat{g}_u$

(iv)  $\widehat{(fg)}_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{R}} \widehat{f}_{u-\ell} \widehat{g}_\ell := (\widehat{f} * \widehat{g})_u$

We have seen (i), (iii), and (iv) previously. Here is the proof of (ii).

(ii)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} (f(x) e^{ikx}) e^{-ikx} dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) e^{-i(k-\ell)x} dx = \widehat{f}_{u-k}$ .

These properties allow us to give explicit solutions to a number of partial differential equations.

Let  $P(\partial_x)$  be a differential operator

$$P(\partial_x)u = \sum_{j=0}^m p_j \partial_x^j u = f$$

Under Fourier transform

$$\widehat{(P(\partial_x)u)}_u = \sum_{j=0}^m p_j (ik)^j \widehat{u}_u = \widehat{f}_u$$

Suppose that  $P$  is elliptic, meaning that

$$\left| \sum_{j=0}^m P_j (ikh)^j \right| \geq \Delta (|h|^m + 1)$$

{ for convenience, this is stronger than the usual definition.

Then  $P(\partial_x)u = f$  can be solved by the Fourier transform and algebra.

$$\sum_{j=0}^m P_j (ikh)^j \hat{u}_n = \widehat{(P(\partial_x)u)_n} = \hat{f}_n \quad \hat{u}_n = \frac{\hat{f}_n}{\sum_{j=0}^m P_j (ikh)^j}$$

Examples:

1) Schrödinger operator  $(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + Q)u = f$   
take  $Q > 0$  a constant

2)  $(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + Q)u = \lambda u$   
make Fourier transform

spectral problem  
w. periodic boundary cond.

$$[-(kh)^2 + Q] \hat{u}_n = \lambda \hat{u}_n$$

whose solutions are

$$\lambda_n = (h^2 + Q) \quad \text{eigenvalues}$$

$$u_n(x) = \frac{e^{ikh}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \quad \frac{e^{-ikh}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

eigenfunctions

The spectrum consists of

$$\lambda_n = (h^2 + Q) \quad h = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

with  $\lambda_0$  multiplicity 1

$\lambda_n$  multiplicity 2.

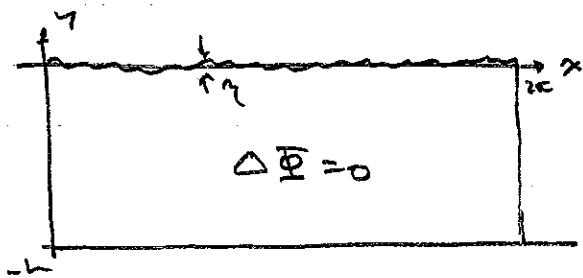
With different boundary conditions -  $u(0) = 0 = u(\pi)$ , the spectrum is different

$$u_j(x) = \frac{\sin(\frac{j}{2}x)}{\sqrt{\pi/2}} \quad j = 1, 2, 3$$

$\lambda_j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  with multiplicity 1.

This procedure extends to construction of the Green's function.

A more unusual case would be to ocean waves.



velocity potential  $\Phi$ ,  
 $\vec{u}(x,y) = \nabla \Phi$

- bottom boundary condition

$$\partial_y \Phi(x, -h) = 0.$$

- lateral side boundary condition

$$\Phi(x + \pi, y) = \Phi(x, y)$$

Top  $y=0$   $0 \leq x < 2\pi$

boundary condition

$$\partial_y \Phi = \omega \eta$$

$$\partial \eta = -\omega \Phi$$

Describe  $\eta$  Fourier series in  $x$ .

$\omega =$  temporal frequency of surface waves

$$\Phi(x, 0) = \sum_{n \neq 0} \xi_n \frac{e^{ihn}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

$$\eta(x) = \sum_{n \neq 0} \eta_n \frac{e^{ihn}}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

The harmonic extension of  $\Phi(x, 0)$  to  $\Phi(x, y)$  is

$$\Phi(x, y) = \sum_{n \neq 0} \xi_n \frac{e^{ihn}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{\cosh(k(y+h))}{\cosh(kh)}$$

$$\partial_y \Phi(x, y=0) = \sum_{n \neq 0} \xi_n \frac{e^{ihn}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{k \sinh(kh)}{\cosh(kh)} = \sum_{n \neq 0} \xi_n \frac{k \tanh(kh)}{e^{ihn}}$$

We find the differential operator expressed as follows

$$\begin{pmatrix} \partial_y \Phi \\ \partial \eta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \omega \eta \\ -\omega \Phi \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} k \tanh(kh) \xi_n = \omega \eta_n \\ \partial \eta_n = -\omega \xi_n \end{matrix}$$

and solving for  $\eta_n$

$$g k \tanh(kh) \eta_n = -\omega_n^2 \eta_n$$

That is, the normal mode frequencies are the eigenvalues, given by the dispersion relation  $\omega^2 = g k \tanh(kh)$ .



(vii) Fourier series - the torus  $\mathbb{T}^d$ .

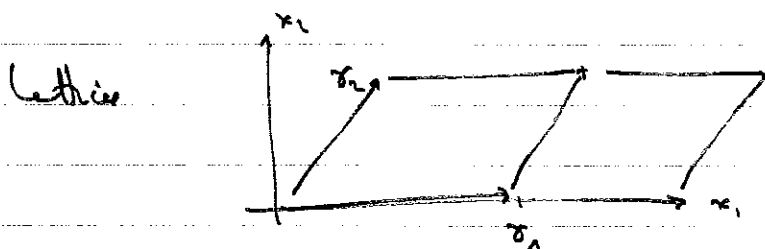
We have been working on the circle  $\mathbb{T}^1$ , for which we identified the interval  $[0, 2\pi)$  with periodic boundary conditions, and considered periodic functions

$$f(x + 2\pi j) = f(x) \quad \text{for all } j \in \mathbb{Z}, x \in \mathbb{R}^1.$$

One can generalise this to the  $d$ -dimensional torus as follows. Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and consider multiply-periodic functions

$$f(x + \gamma) = f(x) \quad \text{for all } \gamma \in \Gamma,$$

where  $\Gamma$  is a lattice in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .



generators  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_d$  (a basis,  $\{\text{such that } \det(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d) \neq 0\}$ )

(these are not uniquely defined)

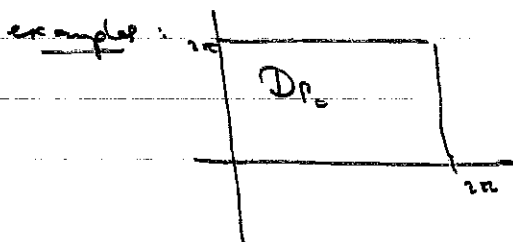
$$\text{Then } \Gamma = \{ \gamma = j_1 \gamma_1 + \dots + j_d \gamma_d ; j_i \in \mathbb{Z}^d \}$$

The standard lattice  $\Gamma_0 = \{ 2\pi(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_d) ; \text{ each } j_i \in \mathbb{Z} \}$

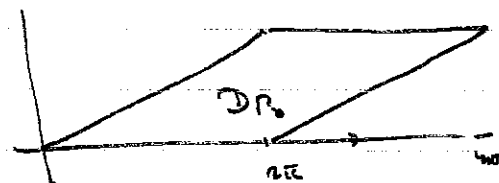
A fundamental domain for this lattice is given by

$$D_\Gamma = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^d : x = \theta_1 \gamma_1 + \theta_2 \gamma_2 + \dots + \theta_d \gamma_d ; \theta_j \in [0, 1) \}$$

whose  $|D_\Gamma|$  is the volume. For example  $|D_{\Gamma_0}| = (2\pi)^d$ .



but also



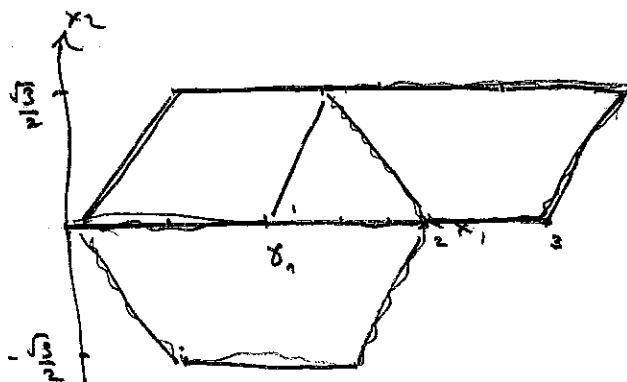
so not unique.

It suffices to know  $f(x)$  on  $D_\Gamma$  in order to know it on all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

It is true that every periodic pattern can be described by such a lattice and fundamental domain.

example: hexagonal lattice

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_1 &= (1, 0) \\ \delta_2 &= \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)\end{aligned}$$



$$1 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4}$$

Periodic functions are those such that

$$f(x+\gamma) = f(x) \quad \text{for all } \gamma \in \Gamma.$$

For such functions, knowing their value on  $D_\Gamma$  suffices to know them for all  $x$ , hence we identify  $D_\Gamma$  with  $\mathbb{T}^d$ .

Fourier series representation: Consider the complex exponential

$$e^{ih \cdot x} \quad \begin{array}{l} h = (h_1, \dots, h_d) \\ \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} x = (x_1, \dots, x_d) \\ \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{array}$$

If this is to be periodic on  $D_\Gamma = \mathbb{T}^d$ , we need that

$$e^{ih \cdot (x+\gamma)} = e^{ih \cdot x} \quad \text{for all } x, \text{ and for all } \gamma \in \Gamma.$$

Therefore  $h$  must satisfy

$$h \cdot \gamma = 2\pi n \quad \text{for some } n \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ for all } \gamma \in \Gamma.$$

The set of such  $h$  forms another lattice,  $\Gamma'$  := the dual lattice.

The following functions form a basis for  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)$ :

$$\left\{ \frac{e^{ih \cdot x}}{|P|^{1/2}} : h \in \Gamma' \right\}.$$

For example, the dual basis for the standard lattice

$$P_0 = \{ (2\pi j_1, 2\pi j_2, \dots, 2\pi j_d) \mid (j_1, \dots, j_d) \in \mathbb{Z}^d \}$$

The dual lattice is  $P_0' = \{ (h_1, \dots, h_d) \mid h_j \in \mathbb{Z} \}$ .

Its volume  $|P_0'| = (2\pi)^d$ .

Fourier transform  $\hat{f}_h = \frac{1}{|P_0'|^{1/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x) e^{-ih \cdot x} dx$  and  $h \in P_0'$

Theorem 1 (Fourier inverse formula)

$$f(x) = \sum_{h \in P_0'} \hat{f}_h \frac{e^{ih \cdot x}}{|P_0'|^{1/2}}$$

where  $\hat{f}_h = \frac{1}{|P_0'|^{1/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x) e^{-ih \cdot x} dx$ .

Plancherel identity  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f(x)|^2 dx = \sum_{h \in P_0'} |\hat{f}_h|^2$ .