

UNIT – I

Fourier Series: Introduction to Fourier series, Fourier series for Discontinuous functions, Fourier series for even and odd function, Half range series

Fourier Transform: Definition and properties of Fourier transform, Sine and Cosine transform

Fourier Series

Introduction: In many physical and engineering problems, especially in the study of periodic function, it is necessary to express a real valued function in series of sines and cosines, which can be expressed in the form.

$$\frac{a_0}{2} + a_1 \cos x + a_2 \cos 2x + \dots + b_1 \sin x + b_2 \sin 2x + \dots$$

where a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots are some constants.

Periodic functions: A function $f(x)$ is said to be periodic if $f(x+l) = f(x), \forall x$ being a real number. If l is the least positive number called the period of the function $f(x)$.

For example: $\sin x, \cos x, \sec x, \cos ecx$ is a periodic function with period 2π .

Also, $\sin nx, \cos nx$ are periodic function with period $\frac{2\pi}{n}$.

Trigonometric Series: A series of the form

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

is called a trigonometric series.

Some useful Definite Integrals: Let m and n be any two integers and the interval $(c, c + 2\pi)$. Then the following definite integrals are as follows:

- (i) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \sin nx \, dx = \left[-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right]_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} = 0, \quad n \neq 0$
- (ii) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \cos nx \, dx = 0, \quad n \neq 0$
- (iii) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \sin mx \sin nx \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\sin(m-n)x}{m-n} - \frac{\sin(m+n)x}{m+n} \right]_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} = 0, \quad m \neq n$
- (iv) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \cos mx \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\sin(m-n)x}{m-n} + \frac{\sin(m+n)x}{m+n} \right]_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} = 0, \quad m \neq n$
- (v) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \sin^2 nx \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} (1 - \cos 2nx) \, dx = \pi, \quad n \neq 0$
- (vi) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \cos^2 nx \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} (1 + \cos 2nx) \, dx = \pi, \quad n \neq 0$
- (vii) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \sin mx \cos nx \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\cos(m+n)x}{m+n} + \frac{\cos(m-n)x}{m-n} \right]_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} = 0, \quad m \neq n$
- (viii) $\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \sin nx \cos nx \, dx = \left[\frac{\sin^2 nx}{2n} \right]_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} = 0, \quad n \neq 0$
- (ix) $\int e^{ax} \sin bx \, dx = \frac{e^{ax}}{a^2 + b^2} (a \sin bx - b \cos bx)$
- (x) $\int e^{ax} \cos bx \, dx = \frac{e^{ax}}{a^2 + b^2} (a \cos bx + b \sin bx)$
- (xi) $\sin n\pi = 0$ and $\cos n\pi = (-1)^n, \quad n \in N.$

Fourier Series: The Fourier Series for the function $f(x)$ in the interval $(\alpha, \alpha + 2\pi)$ is given by

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

where

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \, dx$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx$$

and
$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx$$

The values of a_0, a_n, b_n are known as Euler's Coefficients or Fourier Coefficients.

Proof: Let $f(x)$ be represented in the interval $(\alpha, \alpha + 2\pi)$ by the Fourier Series:

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

To find the coefficients a_0, a_n, b_n . We assume that equation (i) can be integrated term by term in the given interval $(\alpha, \alpha + 2\pi)$.

To find a_0 : integrated both sides of (i), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \, dx &= \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} dx + \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx \right) dx + \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx \right) dx \\ &= \frac{a_0}{2} (\alpha + 2\pi - \alpha) + 0 + 0 \\ &= a_0 \cdot \pi \end{aligned}$$

Hence
$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \, dx$$

To find a_n : multiply both sides of (i) by $\cos nx$ and integrating.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx &= \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \cos nx \, dx + \\ &\int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx \right) \cos nx \, dx + \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx \right) \cos nx \, dx \\ &= 0 + \pi a_n + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence
$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx .$$

To find b_n : multiply both sides of (i) by $\sin nx$ and integrating

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx &= \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \sin nx \, dx + \\ \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx \right) \sin nx \, dx &+ \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx \right) \sin nx \, dx \\ &= 0 + 0 + \pi b_n \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\alpha}^{\alpha+2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx.$$

Deductions: (i) Taking $\alpha = 0$, then interval becomes $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$ and (i) becomes

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \, dx, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx, \quad b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx$$

(ii) taking $\alpha = -\pi$, then interval becomes $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$ and (i) becomes

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \, dx, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx, \quad b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx$$

Dirichlet's conditions:

(RGPV Feb 2007)

Any function $f(x)$ can be expressed as a Fourier series

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

in the interval $(0, 2\pi)$ or $(-\pi, \pi)$, where a_0, a_n, b_n are constants provided that $f(x)$ satisfies the following conditions:

- (i) $f(x)$ is periodic.
- (ii) $f(x)$ and its integrals are finite and single valued.
- (iii) $f(x)$ has a finite number of discontinuities.
- (iv) $f(x)$ has a finite number of maxima and minima.

when these conditions are satisfied, the Fourier series converges to $f(x)$ at every point of continuity. At a point of discontinuity, the sum of the series is equal to the mean of the limits on the right and left.

$$i.e. \quad \frac{1}{2} [f(x+0) + f(x-0)]$$

where $f(x+0)$ and $f(x-0)$ be the right and left limit.

Parseval's theorem:- Let the Fourier series

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

If $f(x)$ converges uniformly to $f(x)$ at every point of the interval $(0, 2\pi)$ then

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [f(x)]^2 dx = \frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2).$$

Illustrative Examples

Example 1. Find a Fourier Series to represent $x - x^2$ from $x = -\pi$ to $x = \pi$. Hence show

$$\frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12} \quad (\text{RGPV Feb 2005, June 2006, Feb 2010})$$

Sol: Let $f(x) = x - x^2, \quad -\pi < x < \pi.$

Fourier Series over the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$ be

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

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (x - x^2) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{-2\pi^2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (x - x^2) \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos nx dx - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \cos nx dx \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \cos nx dx, \quad (\text{since } x \cos nx \text{ is an odd function.}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left\{ x^2 \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right\}_{-\pi}^{\pi} - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 2x \frac{\sin nx}{n} dx \right] \\
&= -\frac{1}{\pi} \left[x^2 \frac{\sin nx}{n} + 2x \frac{\cos nx}{n^2} + 2 \frac{\sin nx}{n^3} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\
&= -\frac{1}{\pi n^2} [4\pi \cos n\pi] \quad \left[\because \sin n\pi = 0, \cos n\pi = (-1)^n \right] \\
&= -\frac{4}{n^2} (-1)^n
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (x - x^2) \sin nx dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx - \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \sin nx dx \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx dx \quad \left[\text{since } x^2 \sin nx \text{ is an odd function.} \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left\{ -x \frac{\cos nx}{n} \right\}_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{\cos nx}{n^2} dx \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-x \frac{\cos nx}{n} + \frac{\sin nx}{n^3} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\pi \frac{\cos n\pi}{n} - \pi \frac{\cos n\pi}{n} \right] \\
&= -\frac{2}{n} (-1)^n
\end{aligned}$$

Hence (i) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
x - x^2 &= -\frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos nx - 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \sin nx \\
&= -\frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left[-\frac{\cos x}{1^2} + \frac{\cos 2x}{2^2} - \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} + \dots \right] - 2 \left[-\frac{\sin x}{1} + \frac{\sin 2x}{2} - \frac{\sin 3x}{3} + \dots \right] \\
&= -\frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \left[\frac{\cos x}{1^2} - \frac{\cos 2x}{2^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} - \dots \right] + 2 \left[\frac{\sin x}{1} - \frac{\sin 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} - \dots \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Putting $x = 0$, we get

$$0 = -\frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4\left(\frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \dots\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$$

Example 2. Find a Fourier Series to represent the function $f(x) = x + x^2$ in the interval $-\pi < x < \pi$.

Hence show that $\frac{\pi^2}{6} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$ (RGPV Feb 2006)

Sol: Let $f(x) = x + x^2$, $-\pi < x < \pi$.

Fourier Series over the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$ be

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

Now,

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (x + x^2) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{2\pi^2}{3}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (x + x^2) \cos nx dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (x + x^2) \cos nx dx \quad [\text{Since } x \cos nx \text{ is an odd function.}]$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x^2 \cos nx dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[x^2 \frac{\sin nx}{n} - 2x \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right) + 2 \left(-\frac{\sin nx}{n^3} \right) \right]_0^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[2\pi \frac{\cos n\pi}{n^2} \right] = \frac{4}{n^2} (-1)^n$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (x + x^2) \sin nx \, dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \quad \left[\text{since } x^2 \sin nx \text{ is an odd function.} \right] \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[-x \frac{\cos nx}{n} - \left(-\frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right) \right]_0^{\pi} \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[-\frac{\pi \cos n\pi}{n} \right] = -\frac{2}{n} (-1)^n
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence (i) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 x + x^2 &= \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos nx - 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \sin nx \\
 &= \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \left[-\cos x + \frac{\cos 2x}{2^2} - \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} + \dots \right] - 2 \left[-\sin x + \frac{\sin 2x}{2} - \frac{\sin 3x}{3} + \dots \right] \\
 &= \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left[\frac{\cos x}{1^2} - \frac{\cos 2x}{2^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} - \dots \right] + 2 \left[\sin x - \frac{\sin 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} - \dots \right] \quad \dots(2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Which is the required Fourier Series.

Now putting $x = \pi$ and $x = -\pi$ in equation (2), we have

$$\pi + \pi^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \left[1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots \right] \quad \dots(3)$$

$$\text{and } -\pi + \pi^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \left[1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots \right] \quad \dots(4)$$

Adding (3) and (4), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\pi^2 &= \frac{2\pi^2}{3} + 8 \left[1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots \right] \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{\pi^2}{6} &= 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 Find Fourier Series represented of $f(x) = x \sin x$, $0 < x < 2\pi$.

(RGPV June 2004, June 2007, Dec 2008)

Sol: Let $f(x) = x \sin x$, $0 < x < 2\pi$

The Fourier series of $f(x)$ in $(0, 2\pi)$ be

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

Now

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x \sin x dx = \frac{1}{\pi} [x(-\cos x) - (-\sin x)]_0^{2\pi} = -2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x \sin x \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x (2 \sin x \cos nx) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x [\sin(n+1)x - \sin(n-1)x] dx \end{aligned}$$

$$[\because 2 \cos A \sin B = \sin(A+B) - \sin(A-B)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[x \left\{ -\frac{\cos(n+1)x}{n+1} + \frac{\cos(n-1)x}{n-1} \right\} - \left\{ -\frac{\sin(n+1)x}{(n+1)^2} + \frac{\sin(n-1)x}{(n-1)^2} \right\} \right]_0^{2\pi} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[2\pi \left\{ -\frac{\cos 2(n+1)\pi}{n+1} + \frac{\cos 2(n-1)\pi}{n-1} \right\} \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n-1} = \frac{2}{n^2-1}, \quad \text{if } n \neq 1 \end{aligned}$$

But if $n = 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x \sin x \cos x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x \sin 2x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[x \left(-\frac{\cos 2x}{2} \right) - \left(-\frac{\sin 2x}{4} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi} = -\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x \sin x \sin nx \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x [\cos(n-1)x - \cos(n+1)x] \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[x \left\{ \frac{\sin(n-1)x}{n-1} - \frac{\sin(n+1)x}{n+1} \right\} - \left\{ \frac{\cos(n-1)x}{(n-1)^2} + \frac{\cos(n+1)x}{(n+1)^2} \right\} \right]_0^{2\pi} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{\cos 2(n-1)\pi}{(n-1)^2} - \frac{\cos 2(n+1)\pi}{(n+1)^2} - \frac{1}{(n-1)^2} + \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{1}{(n-1)^2} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} - \frac{1}{(n-1)^2} + \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right] = 0, \quad \text{if } n \neq 1 \end{aligned}$$

But if $n = 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} b_1 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x \sin x \sin x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x 2 \sin^2 x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x (1 - \cos 2x) \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[x \left(x - \frac{\sin 2x}{2} \right) - \left(\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{\cos 2x}{4} \right) \right]_0^{2\pi} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[2\pi \cdot 2\pi - \frac{4\pi^2}{2} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \right] = \pi \end{aligned}$$

Hence Fourier Series (1) becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + a_1 \cos x + b_1 \sin x + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + 0 \quad (\because b_n = 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x \sin x &= -1 - \frac{1}{2} \cos x + \pi \sin x + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(n^2 - 1)} \cos nx \\ &= -1 - \frac{1}{2} \cos x + \pi \sin x + \frac{2}{(2^2 - 1)} \cos 2x + \frac{2}{(3^2 - 1)} \cos 3x + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Example 4. Find the Fourier Series to represent the function, if

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -\pi, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ x, & 0 < x < \pi \end{cases}$$

Hence deduce that $\frac{\pi^2}{8} = \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots$ (RGPV Dec 2004, Feb 2007, Dec 2008)

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

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) dx + \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 (-\pi) dx + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x dx \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} [x]_{-\pi}^0 + \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^{\pi} \\ &= -\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\pi^2}{4\pi} = -\frac{\pi}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{2}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-\pi \cos nx) dx + \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx dx \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left\{ -\frac{\pi \sin nx}{n} \right\}_{-\pi}^0 + \left\{ x \left(\frac{\sin nx}{n} \right) - (1) \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right) \right\}_0^{\pi} \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[0 + \frac{\cos n\pi}{n^2} - \frac{1}{n^2} \right] \\
&= \frac{\cos n\pi - 1}{\pi n^2}
\end{aligned}$$

If n is even $\cos n\pi = 1$ then $a_n = 0$ i.e. $a_2 = a_4 = \dots = 0$

If n is odd $\cos n\pi = -1$ then $a_n = -\frac{2}{\pi n^2}$ i.e. $a_1 = -\frac{2}{\pi \cdot 1^2}$, $a_3 = -\frac{2}{\pi \cdot 3^2}$ etc.

and

$$\begin{aligned}
b_n &= \frac{2}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-\pi \sin nx) \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left\{ \frac{\pi \cos nx}{n} \right\}_{-\pi}^0 + \left\{ x \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) - (1) \left(-\frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right) \right\}_0^{\pi} \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\pi}{n} - \frac{\pi \cos n\pi}{n} - \frac{\pi \cos n\pi}{n} + 0 \right] = \frac{1 - 2 \cos n\pi}{n}
\end{aligned}$$

\therefore if n is even $\cos n\pi = 1$ then $b_n = -\frac{1}{n}$, i.e. $b_2 = -\frac{1}{2}$, $b_4 = -\frac{1}{4}$ etc.

If n is odd $\cos n\pi = -1$ then $b_n = \frac{3}{n}$, i.e. $b_1 = \frac{3}{1}$, $b_3 = \frac{3}{3}$, $b_5 = \frac{3}{5}$ etc.

Now putting values in (1) then required Fourier Series is

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x) &= -\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{1^2} \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right] + \\
&\quad \left[\frac{3}{1} \sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{3}{3} \sin 3x - \dots \right] \quad \dots(2)
\end{aligned}$$

To find the sum: At $x = 0$ the series converges to

$$\frac{f(0+0) + f(0-0)}{2} = \frac{-\pi + 0}{2} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

and at $x = \pi$ the series converges to

$$\frac{f(-\pi+0) + f(\pi-0)}{2} = \frac{-\pi + \pi}{2} = 0$$

The L.H.S. of (2) is $\frac{-\pi}{2}$ at $x = 0$ and is 0 at $x = \pi$

Therefore putting $x = 0$ in R.H.S. of (2) we get

$$-\frac{\pi}{2} = -\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right]$$

or

$$\frac{\pi^2}{8} = \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots$$

Example 5 Obtain the Fourier Series for $f(x) = e^x$ in the interval $-\pi < x < \pi$.

Sol: Suppose that

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

Now

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^x dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} [e^x]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} (e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi}) = \frac{\sinh \pi}{\pi} \\ a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^x \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{e^x}{1+n^2} (1 \cdot \cos nx + n \sin nx) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi(1+n^2)} [e^{\pi} \cos n\pi - e^{-\pi} \cos(-n\pi)] \\ &= \frac{\cos n\pi}{\pi(1+n^2)} (e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi}) = \frac{2(-1)^n \sinh \pi}{\pi(1+n^2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^x \sin nx \, dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{e^x}{1+n^2} (1 \cdot \sin nx - n \cos nx) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi(1+n^2)} \left[(-n)e^{\pi} \cos n\pi - (-n)e^{-\pi} \cos(-n\pi) \right] \\
 &= \frac{(-n) \cos n\pi}{\pi(1+n^2)} (e^{\pi} - e^{-\pi}) \\
 &= \frac{-2(-1)^n n \sinh \pi}{\pi(1+n^2)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now putting values of a_0, a_n & b_n in (1) we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) = e^x &= \frac{\sinh \pi}{\pi} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^n \sinh \pi}{\pi(1+n^2)} (\cos nx - n \sin nx) \\
 e^x &= \frac{2 \sinh x}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} (\cos x - \sin x) + \frac{1}{5} (\cos 2x - 2 \sin 2x) + \dots \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Which is the required Fourier Expansion.

Example 6. Find a series of *sines* and *cosines* of multiples of x which will represent $f(x)$ in the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$ then

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & -\pi < x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} \pi x & 0 < x < \pi \end{cases}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) dx + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx \\
 &= 0 + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1}{4} \pi x dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{8\pi} \cdot \pi \cdot \frac{\pi^2}{2} = \frac{\pi^2}{16} \quad \dots(2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) \cos nx dx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx \\
 &= 0 + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1}{4} \pi x \cos nx dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \left[x \cdot \frac{\sin nx}{n} - 1 \cdot \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right) \right]_0^{\pi} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \left[0 + \frac{1}{n^2} (\cos n\pi - 1) \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{4n^2} [(-1)^n - 1]
 \end{aligned}$$

Now if n is odd

$$\begin{aligned}
 (-1)^n &= -1 \\
 a_n &= \frac{-1-1}{4n^2} = -\frac{1}{2n^2} \\
 a_1 &= -\frac{1}{2}, \quad a_2 = -\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3^2}, \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

And if n is even

$$\begin{aligned}
 (-1)^n &= 1 \\
 a_n &= \frac{1-1}{4n^2} = 0, \quad \therefore a_2 = a_4 = \dots = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly we have

$$b_n = -\frac{\pi}{4n} (-1)^n$$

$$b_1 = \frac{\pi}{4}, b_2 = -\frac{\pi}{4.2}, b_3 = \frac{\pi}{4.3}, b_4 = -\frac{\pi}{4.4} \dots$$

Now putting values in (1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= a_0 + (a_1 \cos x + b_1 \sin x) + (a_2 \cos 2x + b_2 \sin 2x) + \dots \\ &= \frac{\pi^2}{16} + \left(-\frac{1}{2} \cos x + \frac{\pi}{4} \sin x \right) + \left(0 - \frac{\pi}{4.2} \sin 2x \right) + \\ &\quad \left(-\frac{1}{2.3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{\pi}{4.3} \sin 3x \right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Example 7. Find the Fourier Series expression of the function $f(x)$ given by

$$f(x) = |x| \text{ for } -\pi \leq x \leq \pi \quad (\text{RGPV Dec 2005, Dec 2007})$$

Sol: Let the Fourier Series be

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

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |x| dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-x) dx + \int_0^{\pi} x dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left(-\frac{x^2}{2} \right)_{-\pi}^0 + \left(\frac{x^2}{2} \right)_0^{\pi} \right] = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\pi^2}{2} + \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right] = \pi \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |x| \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-x) \cos nx dx + \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx dx \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos nx \, dx \\
&= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[x \frac{\sin nx}{n} - \left(\frac{-\cos nx}{n^2} \right) \right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{2}{\pi n^2} [\cos n\pi - 1] = \frac{2}{\pi n^2} [(-1)^n - 1] \\
b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |x| \sin nx \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 (-x) \sin nx \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \right] \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Putting the value of a_0, a_n, b_n in (1), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x) &= \frac{\pi}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{\pi n^2} [(-1)^n - 1] \cos nx \\
&= \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5x + \dots \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Even and Odd functions: A function $f(x)$ is said to be an even function if $f(-x) = f(x)$, e.g. $\cos x, x^2, x^3 \sin x$, etc.

A function $f(x)$ is said to be an odd function if

$$f(-x) = -f(x), \text{ e.g. } \sin x, x^3, x^3 \cos x, x^2 \sin x \text{ etc.}$$

The Fourier Series of $f(x)$ in the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$ is given by

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

For even function:

$$\begin{aligned}
a_0 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \, dx \\
a_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx \, dx
\end{aligned}$$

and $b_n = 0$

∴ from (1), The Fourier Series becomes

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

Hence if $f(x)$ is an even function then Fourier Series contains only *cosine* term.

For Odd function:

$$a_0 = 0, \quad a_n = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx$$

∴ from (1), the Fourier series becomes

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$$

Hence if $f(x)$ is an odd function then Fourier series contains only *Sine* term.

Half Range Fourier Series: If a half range series for a function $f(x)$ is desired, then the function is defined in the interval $(0, l)$, (*i.e.* half of the interval $(-l, l)$ and is said to be half range.)

Thus we can obtain the Fourier series either *cosine* series or *sine* series only.

Cosine Series: If $f(x)$ is an even function defined on interval $-l \leq x \leq l$. Then *cosine* Fourier series in half range interval $(0, l)$ becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

where $a_0 = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \, dx$ and $a_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \, dx, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Sine Series: If $f(x)$ is an odd function defined on interval $-l \leq x \leq l$, then *Sine* Fourier series in half range interval $(0, l)$ becomes

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

where $b_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Example 8. Find Fourier Series representation of $f(x) = |x|$ in the interval $-l \leq x \leq l$.

Or

Find *cosine* Fourier series of $f(x) = |x|$ in $(0, l)$. (RGPV 2001)

Sol: Let $f(x) = |x|$, which is an even function in the interval $(-l, l)$

\therefore *cosine* Fourier series of $f(x)$ in half range interval $(0, l)$ becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \quad \dots(1)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) dx = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l |x| dx \\ &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l x dx \quad (\because |x| = x, \quad 0 \leq x \leq l) \\ &= \frac{2}{l} \cdot \frac{l^2}{2} = l \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l x \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{2}{l} \left[\left\{ x \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{\frac{n\pi}{l}} \right\}_0^l - \int_0^l \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{\frac{n\pi}{l}} dx \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{l} \left[0 + \frac{\cos \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}\right)^2} \right]_0^l \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{2}{l} \cdot \frac{l^2}{n^2 \pi^2} (\cos n\pi - \cos 0) \\
 &= \frac{2l}{n^2 \pi^2} [(-1)^n - 1]
 \end{aligned}$$

when n is odd, $a_n = -\frac{4l}{n^2 \pi^2}$

when n is even, $a_n = 0$

Hence Fourier series (1) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \frac{l}{2} - \frac{4l}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \\
 &= \frac{l}{2} - \frac{4l}{\pi^2} \left[\frac{\cos \frac{\pi x}{l}}{1^2} + \frac{\cos \frac{3\pi x}{l}}{3^2} + \frac{\cos \frac{5\pi x}{l}}{5^2} + \dots \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 9. A periodic function of period 4 is defined as $f(x) = |x|$, $-2 < x < 2$. Find its Fourier Series expansion. (RGPV Dec 2002)

Sol: Taking $l = 2$ in the above example 8 and proceed.

Example 10. Find a Fourier series to represent $f(x) = x^2$ in the interval $-l < x < l$.

(RGPV June 2005, Feb 2010)

Sol: Let $f(x) = x^2$ is an even function in the interval $(-l, l)$.

$$\therefore f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \quad \dots(1)$$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) dx = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l x^2 dx$$

Now,

$$= \frac{2}{l} \left(\frac{x^3}{3} \right)_0^l = \frac{2l^2}{3}$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l x^2 \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{2}{l} \left[x^2 \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{\frac{n\pi}{l}} - 2x \left(-\frac{\cos \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{l^2}} \right) + 2 \left(-\frac{\sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}}{\frac{n^3 \pi^3}{l^3}} \right) \right]_0^l \\
&= \frac{4l^2}{n^2 \pi^2} (-1)^n
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the Fourier series (1) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
x^2 &= \frac{l^3}{3} + \frac{4l^2}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \\
&= \frac{l^3}{3} + \frac{4l^2}{\pi^2} \left[-\frac{1}{1^2} \cos \frac{\pi x}{l} + \frac{1}{2^2} \cos \frac{2\pi x}{l} - \frac{1}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{l} + \dots \right] \\
x^2 &= \frac{l^3}{3} - \frac{4l^2}{\pi^2} \left[\frac{1}{1^2} \cos \frac{\pi x}{l} - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos \frac{2\pi x}{l} + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{l} - \dots \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Example 11. Obtain the half range sine series for $f(x) = \pi x - x^2$ in the interval $0 < x < \pi$. (RGPV June 2005)

Solⁿ:- Let the Fourier *Sine* series be

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
b_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\
&= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi x - x^2) \sin nx \, dx \\
&= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\left\{ (\pi x - x^2) \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) \right\}_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} (\pi - 2x) \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right] \\
&= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[(0 - 0) + \left\{ (\pi - 2x) \frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right\}_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} (-2) \frac{\sin nx}{n^2} dx \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[0 - 2 \frac{\cos nx}{n^3} \right]_0^\pi \\
 &= -\frac{4}{\pi n^3} [\cos n\pi - 1] \\
 &= -\frac{4}{\pi n^3} [(-1)^n - 1]
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the required Fourier half range *Sine* series is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \pi x - x^2 &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{4}{\pi n^3} \right) [(-1)^n - 1] \sin nx \\
 &= -\frac{4}{\pi} \left[-\frac{2}{1^3} \sin x - \frac{2}{3^3} \sin 3x - \frac{2}{5^3} \sin 5x - \dots \right] \\
 &= \frac{8}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{1^3} \sin x + \frac{1}{3^3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5^3} \sin 5x + \dots \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 12. Express $f(x) = x$ as a:

(i) Half range *Sine* series in $0 < x < 2$. (RGPV June 2006)

(ii) Half range *cosine* series in $0 < x < 2$. (RGPV Jan 2007, June 2009)

Sol: (i) The half range Fourier *Sine* series be

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2} \quad \dots(1)$$

where $b_n = \frac{2}{2} \int_0^2 f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2} dx$

$$= \int_0^2 x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2} dx$$

$$= \left[x \left(-\frac{\cos \frac{n\pi x}{2}}{\frac{n\pi}{2}} \right) - \left(-\frac{\sin \frac{n\pi x}{2}}{\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{4}} \right) \right]_0^2$$

$$= -\frac{4}{n\pi} (-1)^n$$

Hence the required half range sine series is

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{4}{n\pi} \right) (-1)^n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2} \\ &= \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\sin \frac{\pi x}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{2} - \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

(ii) The half range Fourier cosine series be

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2} \quad \dots(2)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{2}{2} \int_0^2 f(x) dx = \int_0^2 x dx = 2 \\ a_n &= \frac{2}{2} \int_0^2 f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2} dx \\ &= \int_0^2 x \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2} dx \\ &= \left[x \left(\frac{\sin \frac{n\pi x}{2}}{\frac{n\pi}{2}} \right) - \left(-\frac{\cos \frac{n\pi x}{2}}{\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{4}} \right) \right]_0^2 \\ &= \frac{4}{n^2 \pi^2} [(-1)^n - 1] \end{aligned}$$

Hence the required half range cosine series is

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 1 + \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} [(-1)^n - 1] \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2} \\ &= 1 + \frac{4}{\pi^2} \left[-\frac{2}{1^2} \cos \frac{\pi x}{2} - \frac{2}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{2} - \frac{2}{5^2} \cos \frac{5\pi x}{2} - \dots \right] \\ x &= 1 - \frac{8}{\pi^2} \left[\frac{1}{1^2} \cos \frac{\pi x}{2} + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{2} + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos \frac{5\pi x}{2} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

Example 13. Find the half range Sine Fourier series for the function $f(x) = x$ in the interval $0 \leq x \leq \pi$. (RGPV June 2007)

Sol: The half range *Sine* series be

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$$

For the interval $(0, \pi)$,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx \quad \dots(1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin nx \, dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\left\{ x \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) \right\}_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} \left(-\frac{\cos nx}{n} \right) dx \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[-\frac{x \cos nx}{n} + \frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right]_0^{\pi} \\ &= -\frac{2}{\pi n} (\pi \cos n\pi) = -\frac{2}{n} (-1)^n \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the half range *Sine* series be

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{2}{n} \right) (-1)^n \cdot \sin nx \\ &= 2 \left[\sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

Example 14. Find the half range cosine Fourier series of the function:

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 2t, & 0 < t < 1 \\ 2(2-t), & 1 < t < 2 \end{cases} \quad (\text{RGPV June 2003})$$

Sol: The half range cosine Fourier series in $(0, 2)$ is

$$f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi t}{2} \quad \dots(1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &= \frac{2}{2} \int_0^2 f(t) dt = \int_0^1 f(t) dt + \int_1^2 f(t) dt \\
 &= \int_0^1 2t dt + \int_1^2 2(2-t) dt \\
 &= \left[t^2 \right]_0^1 + \left[2 \left(2t - \frac{t^2}{2} \right) \right]_1^2 \\
 &= 1 + 2 \left[4 - 2 - 2 + \frac{1}{2} \right] = 2 \\
 a_n &= \frac{2}{2} \int_0^2 f(t) \cos \frac{n\pi t}{2} dt \\
 &= \int_0^1 f(t) \cos \frac{n\pi t}{2} dt + \int_1^2 f(t) \cos \frac{n\pi t}{2} dt \\
 &= \int_0^1 2t \cos \frac{n\pi t}{2} dt + \int_1^2 2(2-t) \cos \frac{n\pi t}{2} dt \\
 &= 2 \left[t \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi t}{2}}{\frac{n\pi}{2}} + \frac{\cos \frac{n\pi t}{2}}{\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{4}} \right]_0^1 + 2 \left[(2-t) \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi t}{2}}{\frac{n\pi}{2}} - \frac{\cos \frac{n\pi t}{2}}{\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{4}} \right]_1^2 \\
 &= 2 \left[\frac{2}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{4}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{n^2 \pi^2} - \frac{4}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos n\pi - \frac{2}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{4}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right] \\
 &= 2 \left[\frac{8}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{n^2 \pi^2} - \frac{4}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos n\pi \right] \\
 a_n &= \frac{8}{n^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - 1 - \cos n\pi \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

For $n = 1$,

$$a_1 = \frac{8}{1^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \frac{\pi}{2} - 1 - \cos \pi \right] = 0 \quad (\because \cos \pi = -1, \cos \frac{\pi}{2} = 0)$$

For $n = 2$,

$$a_2 = \frac{8}{2^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \pi - 1 - \cos 2\pi \right] = -\frac{32}{2^2 \pi^2} \quad (\because \cos 2\pi = 1)$$

For $n = 3$,

$$a_3 = \frac{8}{3^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \frac{3\pi}{2} - 1 - \cos 3\pi \right] = 0 \quad (\because \cos \frac{3\pi}{2} = 0, \cos 3\pi = -1)$$

For $n = 4$,

$$a_4 = \frac{8}{4^2 \pi^2} [2 \cos 2\pi - 1 - \cos 4\pi] = 0$$

For $n = 5$,

$$a_5 = 0$$

For $n = 6$,

$$a_6 = \frac{8}{6^2 \pi^2} [2 \cos 3\pi - 1 - \cos 6\pi] = -\frac{32}{6^2 \pi^2}$$

$$a_7 = 0, a_8 = 0, a_9 = 0, a_{10} = -\frac{32}{10^2 \pi^2} \text{ and so on.}$$

\therefore Half range cosine series becomes

$$f(x) = 1 - \frac{32}{\pi^2} \left[\frac{1}{2^2} \cos \pi t + \frac{1}{6^2} \cos 3\pi t + \frac{1}{10^2} \cos 5\pi t + \dots \right]$$

Example 15. Obtain the Fourier series for $f(x)$:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ x^2, & 0 < x < \pi \end{cases} \quad (\text{RGPV Dec 2003})$$

Solⁿ: The Fourier series be

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

where $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 f(x) dx + \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx \right]$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 0 dx + \int_0^{\pi} x^2 dx \right] = \frac{\pi^2}{3}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 0 \cdot \cos nx dx + \int_0^{\pi} x^2 \cos nx dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left\{ x^2 \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right\}_0^{\pi} - \int_0^{\pi} 2x \frac{\sin nx}{n} dx \right]$$

$$= -\frac{2}{n\pi} \left[-x \frac{\cos nx}{n} + \frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{2}{n^2 \pi} [\pi \cos n\pi] = \frac{2}{n^2} (-1)^n$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx \, dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_{-\pi}^0 0 \cdot \sin nx \, dx + \int_0^{\pi} x^2 \sin nx \, dx \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left\{ -x^2 \frac{\cos nx}{n} \right\}_0^{\pi} + \int_0^{\pi} 2x \frac{\cos nx}{n} \, dx \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[-\frac{\pi^2 (-1)^n}{n} + \frac{2}{n} \left\{ \frac{x \sin nx}{n} + \frac{\cos nx}{n^2} \right\}_0^{\pi} \right] \\
 &= \frac{(-1)^n}{\pi} \left[\frac{2}{n^3} - \frac{\pi^2}{n} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the Fourier series becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \frac{\pi^2}{6} - 2 \left[\cos x - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x - \dots \right] - \\
 &\quad \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left(\frac{2}{1^3} - \frac{\pi^2}{1} \right) \sin x - \left(\frac{2}{2^3} - \frac{\pi^2}{2} \right) \sin 2x + \dots \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 16. Obtain the Fourier series for the function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \pi x, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ \pi(2-x), & 1 \leq x \leq 2 \end{cases} \quad (\text{RGPV June 2002, Dec 2004})$$

Sol: The Fourier series be

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

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &= \int_0^1 f(x) \, dx + \int_1^2 f(x) \, dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 \pi x \, dx + \int_1^2 \pi(2-x) \, dx \\
 &= \pi \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^1 + \pi \left[2x - \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_1^2 = \pi
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n &= \int_0^1 \pi x \cos nx \, dx + \int_1^2 \pi(2-x) \cos nx \, dx \\
 &= \left[\pi x \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n\pi} - \pi \left(-\frac{\cos n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right) \right]_0^1 + \left[\pi(2-x) \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n\pi} - (-\pi) \left(-\frac{\cos n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right) \right]_1^2 \\
 &= \left(\frac{\cos n\pi}{n^2 \pi} - \frac{1}{n^2 \pi^2} \right) - \left(\frac{\cos 2n\pi}{n^2 \pi} - \frac{\cos n\pi}{n^2 \pi} \right) \\
 &= \frac{2}{n^2 \pi} [(-1)^n - 1]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_n &= \int_0^1 \pi x \sin n\pi x \, dx + \int_1^2 \pi(2-x) \sin n\pi x \, dx \\
 &= \left[\pi x \left(-\frac{\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} \right) - \pi \left(-\frac{\sin n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right) \right]_0^1 + \left[\pi(2-x) \left(-\frac{\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} \right) - (-\pi) \left(-\frac{\sin n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right) \right]_1^2 \\
 &= -\frac{\cos n\pi}{n} + \frac{\cos n\pi}{n} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the required Fourier series becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos \pi x}{1^2} + \frac{\cos 3\pi x}{3^2} + \frac{\cos 5\pi x}{5^2} + \dots \right]$$

Example 17. Obtain a half range *cosine* series for

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} kx, & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{l}{2} \\ k(l-x), & \text{for } \frac{l}{2} \leq x \leq l. \end{cases} \quad (\text{RGPV Dec 2004, Feb 2006})$$

Sol: Let the *cosine* series be

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \quad \dots(1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \, dx \\
 &= \frac{2}{l} \left[\int_0^{\frac{l}{2}} kx \, dx + \int_{\frac{l}{2}}^l k(l-x) \, dx \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{2}{l} \left[\left\{ \frac{kx^2}{2} \right\}_0^{\frac{l}{2}} + \left\{ k \left(lx - \frac{x^2}{2} \right) \right\}_{\frac{l}{2}}^l \right] \\
&= \frac{2}{l} \left[\frac{kl^2}{8} + k \left(l^2 - \frac{l^2}{2} \right) - k \left(\frac{l^2}{2} - \frac{l^2}{8} \right) \right] = \frac{2}{l} \left(\frac{kl^2}{4} \right) = \frac{kl}{2} \\
a_n &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \\
&= \frac{2}{l} \left[\int_0^{\frac{l}{2}} kx \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx + \int_{\frac{l}{2}}^l k(l-x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \right] \\
&= \frac{2}{l} \left[\left\{ kx \frac{l}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} + k \frac{l^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right\}_0^{\frac{l}{2}} + \left\{ k(l-x) \frac{l}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} - k \frac{l^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right\}_{\frac{l}{2}}^l \right] \\
&= \frac{2}{l} \left[\left\{ \frac{kl^2}{2n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{kl^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \left(\cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - 1 \right) \right\} + \left\{ \frac{-kl^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos n\pi - \frac{kl^2}{2n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi}{l} + \frac{kl^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right\} \right] \\
&= \frac{2}{l} \left[\frac{2kl^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{kl^2}{n^2 \pi^2} - \frac{kl^2}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos n\pi \right] \\
a_n &= \frac{2kl}{n^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - 1 - \cos n\pi \right]
\end{aligned}$$

For $n = 1$,

$$a_1 = \frac{2kl}{1^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \frac{\pi}{2} - 1 - \cos \pi \right] = 0 \quad \left(\because \cos \pi = -1, \cos \frac{\pi}{2} = 0 \right)$$

For $n = 2$,

$$a_2 = \frac{2kl}{2^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \pi - 1 - \cos 2\pi \right] = \frac{-8kl}{2^2 \pi^2} \quad \left(\because \cos 2\pi = 1 \right)$$

For $n = 3$,

$$a_3 = \frac{2kl}{3^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos \frac{3\pi}{2} - 1 - \cos 3\pi \right] = 0 \quad \left(\because \cos \frac{3\pi}{2} = 0, \cos 3\pi = -1 \right)$$

For $n = 4$,

$$a_4 = \frac{2kl}{4^2 \pi^2} \left[2 \cos 2\pi - 1 - \cos 4\pi \right] = 0$$

For $n = 5$,

$$a_5 = 0, a_6 = \frac{-8kl}{6^2 \pi^2}, a_7 = 0, a_8 = 0, a_9 = 0, a_{10} = \frac{-8kl}{10^2 \pi^2} \text{ and so on.}$$

\therefore Fourier cosine series becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{kl}{4} - \frac{8kl}{\pi^2} \left[\frac{1}{2^2} \cdot \cos \frac{2\pi x}{l} + \frac{1}{6^2} \cdot \cos \frac{6\pi x}{l} + \frac{1}{10^2} \cdot \cos \frac{10\pi x}{l} + \dots \right]$$

Example 18. Expand $f(x) = \sqrt{1 - \cos x}$, $0 < x < 2\pi$ in a Fourier series. Hence evaluate

$$\frac{1}{1.3} + \frac{1}{3.5} + \frac{1}{5.7} + \dots \quad (\text{RGPV Sept 2009})$$

Sol: Let $f(x) = \sqrt{1 - \cos x} = \sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2}$

The Fourier series be

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

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2} dx \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \left[-2 \cos \frac{x}{2} \right]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2} \cos nx dx \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} 2 \cos nx \sin \frac{x}{2} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\sin \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) x - \sin \left(n - \frac{1}{2} \right) x \right] dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi} \left[\frac{-2}{2n+1} \cos \left(\frac{2n+1}{2} \right) x + \frac{2}{2n-1} \cos \left(\frac{2n-1}{2} \right) x \right]_0^{2\pi} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}\pi} \left[\frac{-1}{2n+1} \{\cos(2n+1)\pi - 1\} + \frac{1}{2n-1} \{\cos(2n-1)\pi - 1\} \right] \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \left[\frac{2}{2n+1} - \frac{2}{2n-1} \right] = \frac{-4\sqrt{2}}{\pi(4n^2-1)}
\end{aligned}$$

$$(\because \cos(2n+1)\pi = \cos(2n-1)\pi = -1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2} \sin n\pi x \, dx \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} 2 \sin n\pi x \sin \frac{x}{2} \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\cos \left(n - \frac{1}{2} \right) x - \cos \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right) x \right] \, dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi} \left[\frac{2}{2n-1} \sin \left(\frac{2n-1}{2} \right) x - \frac{2}{2n+1} \sin \left(\frac{2n+1}{2} \right) x \right]_0^{2\pi} \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{2n-1} \{\sin(2n-1)\pi - 0\} - \frac{1}{2n+1} \{\sin(2n+1)\pi - 0\} \right] \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the required Fourier series becomes

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

when $x = 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} - \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4n^2-1} \\
\text{'or' } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4n^2-1} &= \frac{1}{2} \\
\text{'or' } \frac{1}{1.3} + \frac{1}{3.5} + \frac{1}{5.7} + \dots &= \frac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Example 19. Find the Fourier series expansion of $f(x) = 2x - x^2$ in $(0, 3)$ and hence deduce that

$$\frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}.$$

(RGPV June 2008)

Sol: The required Fourier series be

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \quad \text{where } 2l = 3 \quad \dots(1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} f(x) dx = \frac{2}{3} \int_0^3 (2x - x^2) dx \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \left[x^2 - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^3 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} (2x - x^2) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \int_0^3 (2x - x^2) \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{3} dx \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \left[(2x - x^2) \frac{\cos \frac{2n\pi x}{3}}{\frac{2n\pi}{3}} - (2 - 2x) \left(\frac{-\cos \frac{2n\pi x}{3}}{\left(\frac{2n\pi}{3}\right)^2} \right) + (-2) \left(\frac{-\sin \frac{2n\pi x}{3}}{\left(\frac{2n\pi}{3}\right)^3} \right) \right]_0^3 \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{9}{4n^2 \pi^2} [-4 \cos 2n\pi - 2] = \frac{-9}{n^2 \pi^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{l} \int_0^{2l} (2x - x^2) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx = \frac{2}{3} \int_0^3 (2x - x^2) \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{3} dx \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \left[(2x - x^2) \left(\frac{-\cos \frac{2n\pi x}{3}}{\frac{2n\pi}{3}} \right) - (2 - 2x) \left(\frac{-\sin \frac{2n\pi x}{3}}{\left(\frac{2n\pi}{3}\right)^2} \right) - 2 \frac{\cos \frac{2n\pi x}{3}}{\left(\frac{2n\pi}{3}\right)^3} \right]_0^3 \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \left[\frac{-6}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos 2n\pi - \frac{27}{4n^3 \pi^3} (\cos 2n\pi - 1) \right] = \frac{3}{n\pi} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the Fourier series becomes

$$2x - x^2 = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{9}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3}{n\pi} \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{3}$$

Putting $x = \frac{3}{2}$, we have

$$3 - \frac{9}{4} = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{9}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos n\pi$$

$$\text{or } \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$$

Example 20. Expand

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} - x, & \text{if } 0 < x < \frac{1}{2} \\ x - \frac{3}{4}, & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} < x < 1 \end{cases}$$

as a Fourier series of $\sin e$ terms.

(RGPV Sept 2009)

Sol: The Fourier $\sin e$ series be

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin n\pi x \quad \dots(1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{1} \int_0^1 f(x) \sin n\pi x dx \\ &= 2 \left[\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{4} - x \right) \sin n\pi x dx + \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \left(x - \frac{3}{4} \right) \sin n\pi x dx \right] \\ &= 2 \left[-\left(\frac{1}{4} - x \right) \frac{\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} - \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right]_0^{\frac{1}{2}} + 2 \left[-\left(x - \frac{3}{4} \right) \frac{\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} + \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n^2 \pi^2} \right]_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \left[\frac{1}{4n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{4n\pi} - \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi}{2}}{n^2 \pi^2} - \frac{1}{4n\pi} \cos n\pi - \frac{1}{4n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi}{2}}{n^2 \pi^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n\pi} \left[1 - (-1)^n \right] - \frac{4 \sin \frac{n\pi}{2}}{n^2 \pi^2}$$

For $n = 1$, $b_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} - \frac{4}{\pi^2}$,

For $n = 2$, $b_2 = 0$,

For $n = 3$, $b_3 = \frac{1}{3\pi} + \frac{4}{3^2 \pi^2}$,

For $n = 4$, $b_4 = 0$,

For $n = 5$, $b_5 = \frac{1}{5\pi} - \frac{4}{5^2 \pi^2}$,

For $n = 6$, $b_6 = 0$ and so on.

Hence Fourier sine series becomes

$$f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{\pi} - \frac{4}{\pi^2} \right) \sin \pi x + \left(\frac{1}{3\pi} - \frac{4}{3^2 \pi^2} \right) \sin 3\pi x + \left(\frac{1}{5\pi} - \frac{4}{5^2 \pi^2} \right) \sin 5\pi x + \dots$$

Example 21 If $f(x) = |\cos x|$, expand $f(x)$ as a Fourier series in the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$.

Sol: As $f(-x) = |\cos(-x)| = |\cos x| = f(x)$.

Thus $|\cos x|$ is an even function.

Therefore, the Fourier series be

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

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} |\cos x| dx \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos x dx + \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} (-\cos x) dx \right] \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\{\sin x\}_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} - \{\sin x\}_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} \right] = \frac{4}{\pi} \\
 a_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} |\cos x| \cos nx dx \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos x \cos nx dx + \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} (-\cos x) \cos nx dx \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \{\cos(n+1)x + \cos(n-1)x\} dx - \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} \{\cos(n+1)x + \cos(n-1)x\} dx \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\left\{ \frac{\sin(n+1)x}{n+1} + \frac{\sin(n-1)x}{n-1} \right\}_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} - \left\{ \frac{\sin(n+1)x}{n+1} + \frac{\sin(n-1)x}{n-1} \right\}_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin(n+1)\frac{\pi}{2}}{n+1} + \frac{\sin(n-1)\frac{\pi}{2}}{n-1} - \frac{\sin(n+1)\frac{\pi}{2}}{n+1} - \frac{\sin(n-1)\frac{\pi}{2}}{n-1} \right] \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos \frac{n\pi}{2}}{n+1} - \frac{\cos \frac{n\pi}{2}}{n-1} \right] \\
 &= \frac{-4 \cos \frac{n\pi}{2}}{\pi(n^2-1)}, \quad n \neq 1
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{For } n=1, \quad a_1 = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^2 x dx - \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} \cos^2 x dx \right] = 0$$

Hence Fourier series becomes

$$|\cos x| = \frac{2}{\pi} + \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{3} \cos 2x - \frac{1}{15} \cos 4x + \dots \right]$$

Example 22. Prove that in $0 < x < l$: $x = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{4l}{\pi^2} \left[\cos \frac{\pi x}{l} + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{l} + \dots \right]$ and

deduce that $\frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{5^4} + \dots = \frac{\pi^4}{96}$. (RGPV Dec 2003)

Sol: Let $f(x) = x$, then cosine series in $(0, l)$ be

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \quad \dots(1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l x \, dx = \frac{2}{l} \cdot \frac{l^2}{2} = l \\ a_n &= \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l x \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \, dx \\ &= \frac{2}{l} \left[\left\{ x \cdot \frac{l}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right\}_0^l - \int_0^l \frac{l}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \, dx \right] \\ &= \frac{-2}{l} \cdot \frac{l}{n\pi} \left(\frac{-l}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right)_0^l \\ &= \frac{2l}{n^2 \pi^2} (\cos n\pi - 1) = \frac{2l}{n^2 \pi^2} [(-1)^n - 1] \end{aligned}$$

Hence Fourier cosine series becomes

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{l}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2l}{n^2 \pi^2} [(-1)^n - 1] \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \\ &= \frac{l}{2} - \frac{4l}{\pi^2} \left[\cos \frac{\pi x}{l} + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{l} + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos \frac{5\pi x}{l} + \dots \right] \quad \dots(2) \end{aligned}$$

Now, using Parseval's theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b [f(x)]^2 dx &= \frac{b-a}{2} \left[\frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) \right] \\ \Rightarrow \int_0^l x^2 dx &= \frac{l-0}{2} \left[\frac{l^2}{2} + \sum_{n=\text{odd}}^{\infty} \left(\frac{-4l}{n^2 \pi^2} \right)^2 \right] \\ \Rightarrow \frac{l^3}{3} &= \frac{l}{2} \left[\frac{l^2}{2} - \frac{16l^2}{\pi^4} \left(\frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{5^4} + \dots \right) \right] \\ \Rightarrow \frac{2l^2}{3} &= \frac{l^2}{2} - \frac{16l^2}{\pi^4} \left(\frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{5^4} + \dots \right) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{-l^2}{6} &= \frac{-16l^2}{\pi^4} \left(\frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{5^4} + \dots \right) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\pi^4}{96} &= \frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{5^4} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Example 23. Obtain the Fourier series for the function $f(x) = x^2$, $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$. Hence deduce that

$$(i) \quad \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{6} \quad (\text{RGPV June 2009})$$

$$(ii) \quad \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$$

$$(iii) \quad \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{8}$$

$$(iv) \quad \frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{2^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \dots = \frac{\pi^4}{90} \quad (\text{RGPV June 2008, Dec 2010})$$

Sol: Let $f(x) = x^2$. i.e. an even function then Fourier series be

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

where

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left(\frac{x^3}{3} \right)_0^{\pi} = \frac{2}{3} \pi^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi x^2 \cos nx \, dx \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[x^2 \frac{\sin nx}{n} - 2x \left(\frac{-\cos nx}{n^2} \right) + 2 \left(\frac{-\sin nx}{n^3} \right) \right]_0^\pi \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[2\pi \frac{\cos n\pi}{n^2} \right] = \frac{4}{n^2} (-1)^n
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence Fourier series becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^2 &= \frac{\pi^2}{3} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos nx \\
 x^2 &= \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left(\frac{\cos x}{1^2} - \frac{\cos 2x}{2^2} + \frac{\cos 3x}{3^2} - \frac{\cos 4x}{4^2} + \dots \right) \quad \dots(2)
 \end{aligned}$$

(i) Putting $x = \pi$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \pi^2 &= \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left(\frac{-1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} - \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} - \dots \right) \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{2\pi^2}{3} &= 4 \left(\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots \right) \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots &= \frac{\pi^2}{6} \quad \dots(3)
 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Putting $x = 0$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= \frac{\pi^2}{3} - 4 \left(\frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots \right) \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots &= \frac{\pi^2}{12} \quad \dots(4)
 \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Adding (3) and (4), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 2 \left(\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots \right) &= \frac{\pi^2}{4} \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots &= \frac{\pi^2}{8} \quad \dots(5)
 \end{aligned}$$

(iv) Using Parseval's theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} [f(x)]^2 dx &= \pi \left[\frac{a_0^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n^2 + b_n^2) \right] \\ \Rightarrow \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^4 dx &= \pi \left[\frac{4\pi^4}{18} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{16}{n^4} \right] \\ \Rightarrow \left[\frac{x^5}{5} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} &= \frac{2}{9} \pi^5 + \pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{16}{n^4} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{2\pi^5}{5} - \frac{2\pi^5}{9} &= 16\pi \left(\frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{2^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \dots \right) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{8\pi^5}{45} &= 16\pi \left(\frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{2^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \dots \right) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1^4} + \frac{1}{2^4} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \dots &= \frac{\pi^4}{90} \end{aligned}$$

Practice Problems

1. Find the Fourier series representation of $f(x) = x \cos x$, $-\pi < x < \pi$.

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{-1}{2} \sin nx + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2n(-1)^n}{(n^2-1)} \sin nx \right]$$

2. Obtain Fourier series expansion for $f(x) = x \sin x$ in the interval $-\pi < x < \pi$.

$$\text{Hence deduce that } \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{1.3} - \frac{1}{3.5} + \frac{1}{5.7} - \dots$$

$$\left[\text{Ans: } 1 - \frac{1}{2} \cos x - \frac{2}{1.3} \cos 2x + \frac{2}{2.4} \cos 3x - \dots \right]$$

3. Find the Fourier series to represent the function $f(x) = |\sin x|$, $-\pi < x < \pi$.

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{2}{\pi} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos 2x}{3} + \frac{\cos 4x}{15} + \dots \right] \right]$$

4. Find the half range cosine series for the function $f(x) = \sin \frac{\pi x}{l}$, $0 < x < l$.
(RGPV Dec 2005)

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{2}{\pi} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos \frac{2\pi x}{l}}{1.3} + \frac{\cos \frac{4\pi x}{l}}{3.5} + \frac{\cos \frac{6\pi x}{l}}{5.7} + \dots \right] \right]$$

5. Obtain the Fourier series for $f(x) = e^{-x}$ in the interval $0 < x < 2\pi$.

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{1 - e^{-2\pi}}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{2} \cos x + \frac{1}{5} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{10} \cos 3x + \dots \right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} \sin x + \frac{2}{5} \sin 2x + \frac{3}{10} \sin 3x + \dots \right) \right\} \right]$$

6. Find the Fourier series to represent the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi \leq x \leq 0 \\ \sin x, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

Hence show that $\frac{1}{1.3} + \frac{1}{3.5} + \dots = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{1}{\pi} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{3} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{15} \cos 4x + \dots \right] + \frac{1}{2} \sin x \right]$$

7. Find the Fourier series expansion of the periodic function of period 2π , defined

$$\text{by } f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } \frac{-\pi}{2} < x < \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \pi - x, & \text{if } \frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{3\pi}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin x}{1^2} - \frac{\sin 3x}{3^2} + \frac{\sin 5x}{5^2} - \dots \right] \right]$$

8. Expand the function $f(x)$ in Fourier series in the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi \\ x, & -\pi \leq x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{1}{1^2} \cos x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x + \dots \right] + 3 \left[\sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots \right] \right]$$

9. If $f(x)$ is a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \pi - x, & \frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

Express $f(x)$ by a sine Fourier series and also by a cosine series.

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{4}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin x}{1^2} - \frac{\sin 3x}{3^2} + \frac{\sin 5x}{5^2} - \dots \right], \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{8}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos 2x}{2^2} + \frac{\cos 6x}{6^2} + \frac{\cos 10x}{10^2} + \dots \right] \right]$$

10. Find the Fourier expansion of the periodic function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -k, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ k, & 0 < x < \pi \end{cases}$$

and $f(x+2\pi) = f(x)$. Sketch the graph of $f(x)$.

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{4k}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin x}{1} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} + \frac{\sin 5x}{5} + \dots \right] \right]$$

11. Expand $f(x)$ in a Fourier series in the interval $(0, 2)$ if

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & 1 < x < 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{1}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi^2} \left[\cos \pi x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3\pi x + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos 5\pi x + \dots \right] + \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\sin \pi x - \frac{\sin 2\pi x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3\pi x}{3} - \dots \right] \right]$$

12. Find the Fourier cosine series for $f(x) = x(\pi - x)$ in $0 < x < \pi$ and use Parseval's theorem to prove that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4} = \frac{\pi^4}{90}$$

13. Find the Fourier series expansion for the function $f(x) = x - x^2$ in $-1 < x < 1$.

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{-1}{3} + \frac{4}{\pi^2} \left[\frac{\cos \pi x}{1^2} - \frac{\cos 2\pi x}{2^2} + \frac{\cos 3\pi x}{3^2} - \dots \right] + \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin x}{1^2} - \frac{\sin 2\pi x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3\pi x}{3} - \dots \right] \right]$$

14. Find the Fourier series for the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi \leq x \leq 0 \\ 1, & 0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2} \\ 0, & \frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{\cos x}{1} - \frac{\cos 3x}{3} + \frac{\cos 5x}{5} - \dots \right] + \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sin x}{1} + \frac{\sin 2x}{2} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3} + \dots \right] \right].$$

15. Express $\cosh x$ in Fourier series in the interval $-\pi < x < \pi$.

$$\left[\text{Ans: } \frac{2}{\pi} \sinh \pi \left[\frac{1}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{(-1)^n - 1}{n^2 + 1} \right) \cos nx \right] \right].$$

16. Obtain Fourier series for the function $f(x)$ given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 + \frac{2x}{\pi}, & -\pi \leq x \leq 0 \\ 1 - \frac{2x}{\pi}, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

Hence, deduce that $\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{8}$.