

# Today

---

- Method of Undetermined Coefficients for any periodic function.
- Fourier Series and method of undetermined coefficients
- Fourier series calculations

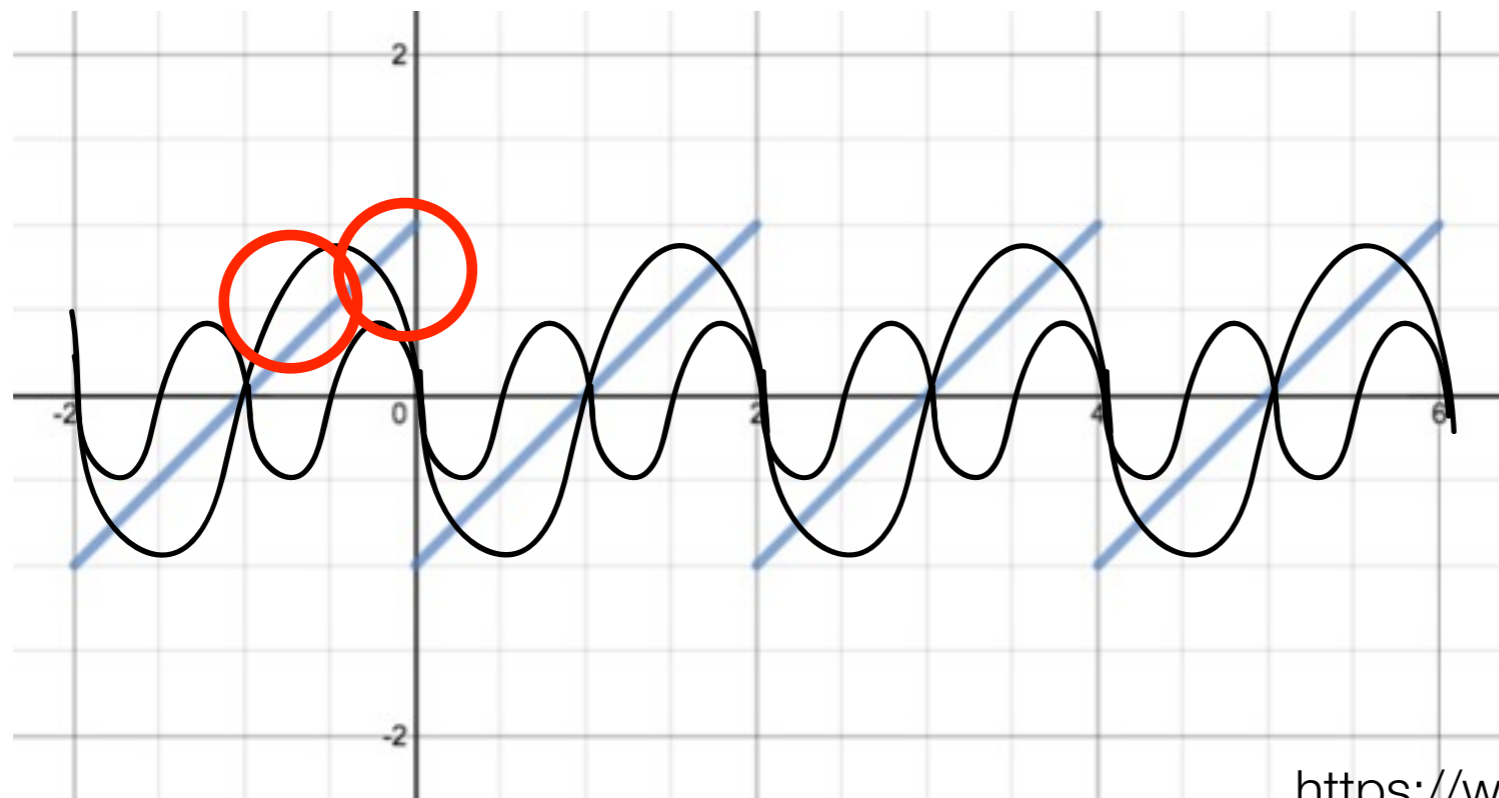
# Fourier series

---

- Recall Method of Undetermined Coefficients for equations of the form

$$ay'' + by' + cy = f(t)$$

- Applicable for functions  $f(t)$  that are polynomials, exponentials, sin, cos and products of those.
- How about functions like this (periodic but not trig)?



- What if we could construct such functions using only sine and cosine functions?

# Fourier series

- For the equation

$$y'' + 10y = \cos(t) + \frac{1}{2} \cos(2t) + \frac{1}{3} \cos(3t) + \frac{1}{4} \cos(4t) + \dots$$

- what will be the

coefficient) in the solution?

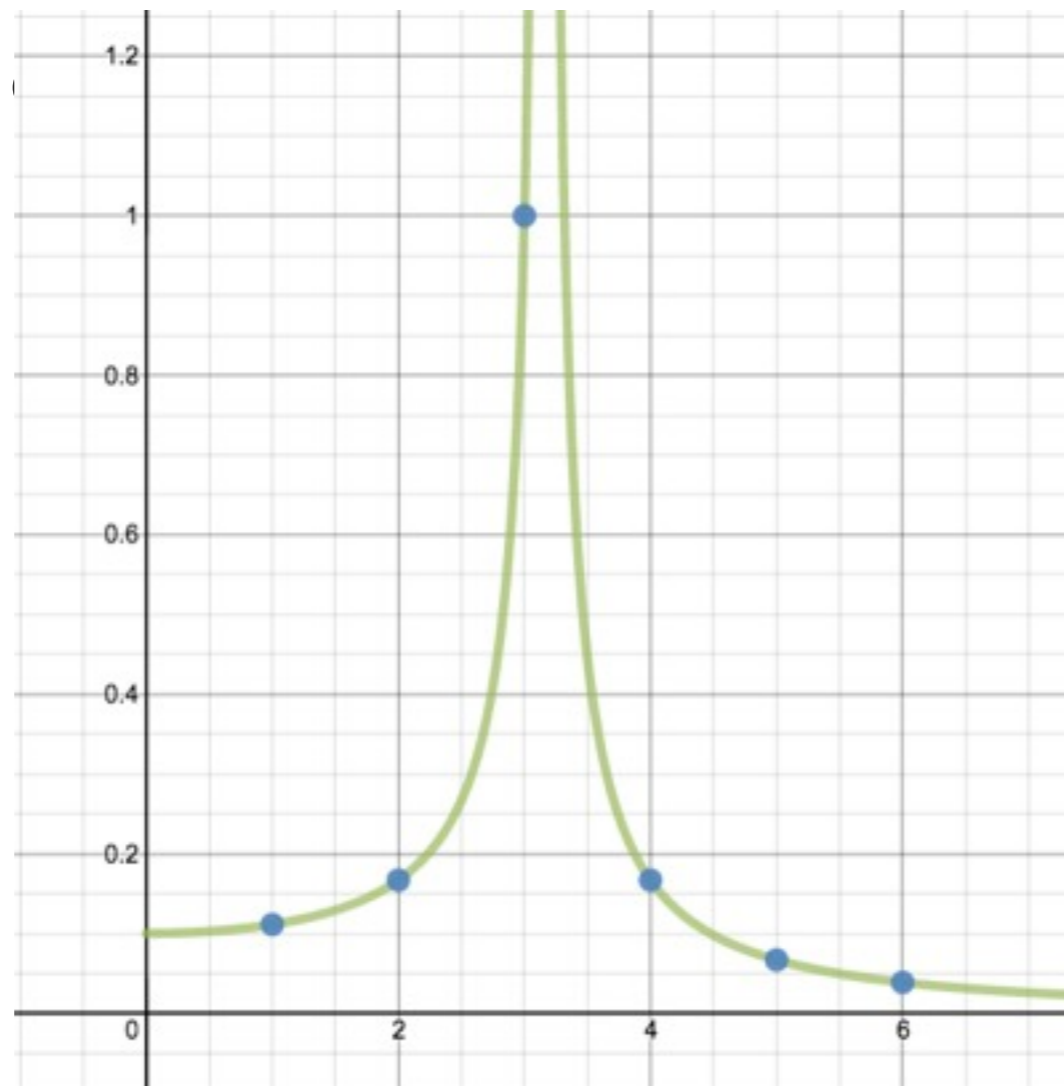
(A)  $w = 1$

(B)  $w = 2$

★ (C)  $w = 3$

(D)  $w = 4$

(E) Don't know. Explain please.



$$A(\omega) = \frac{1}{|\omega_0^2 - \omega^2|}$$

# Fourier series

---

- Replace  $f(t)$  by a sum of trig functions, if possible:

$$ay'' + by' + cy = f(t) \stackrel{?}{=} A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \cos(\omega_n t) + \sum_{n=1}^N b_n \sin(\omega_n t)$$

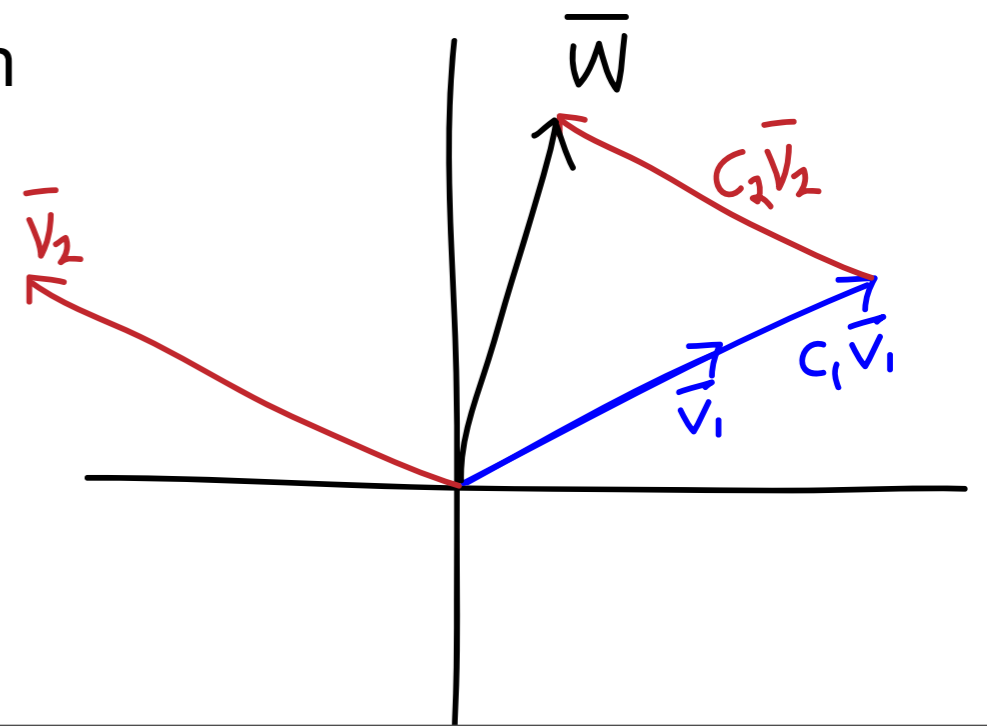
- For any  $f(t)$ , how do we find the best choice of  $A_0, a_n, b_n$ ?
- This problem is closely related to an analogous vector problem: how do you choose  $c_1, c_2$  so that  $w = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2$ ?
- If  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  are perpendicular ( $v_1 \circ v_2 = 0$ ), then

$$w \circ v_1 = c_1 v_1 \circ v_1 + c_2 v_2 \circ v_1$$

$$c_1 = \frac{w \circ v_1}{v_1 \circ v_1}$$

$$v_1 \circ v_1 = \|v_1\|^2$$

$$c_2 = \frac{w \circ v_2}{v_2 \circ v_2}$$



# Fourier series

---

- For functions, define dot product as

$$g(x) \circ h(x) = \int_{\text{one period}} g(x)h(x) dx$$

- just like for vectors but indexed over all x instead of 1, 2, 3:

$$\mathbf{v} \circ \mathbf{w} = v_1w_1 + v_2w_2 + v_3w_3$$

# Fourier series

---

- Back to our ODE, what do we choose for the  $\omega_n$  if  $f(t)$  has period  $T$ ? Keep in mind that we want all the functions involved to have period  $T$ .

$$ay'' + by' + cy = f(t) \stackrel{?}{=} A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \cos(\omega_n t) + \sum_{n=1}^N b_n \sin(\omega_n t)$$

(A)  $\omega_n = \pi / T$

(B)  $\omega_n = 2 \pi / T$

(C)  $\omega_n = n \pi / T$

★ (D)  $\omega_n = 2 \pi n / T$

(E) Don't know. Explain please.

Once we find the coefficients, this will be the **Fourier series** representation of  $f(t)$ .

For FS in general, people use  $\omega_n = \pi n / T$  for reasons that will make more sense once we cover PDEs.

Draw graphs on doc cam.

# Finding the Fourier series coefficients

- Define  $v_0(x) = 1$   $v_n(x) = \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$   $n = (0, )1, 2, 3, \dots$

$v_0 \circ v_n =$

★ (A) 0

(B)  $\pi$

(C)  $\pi/2$

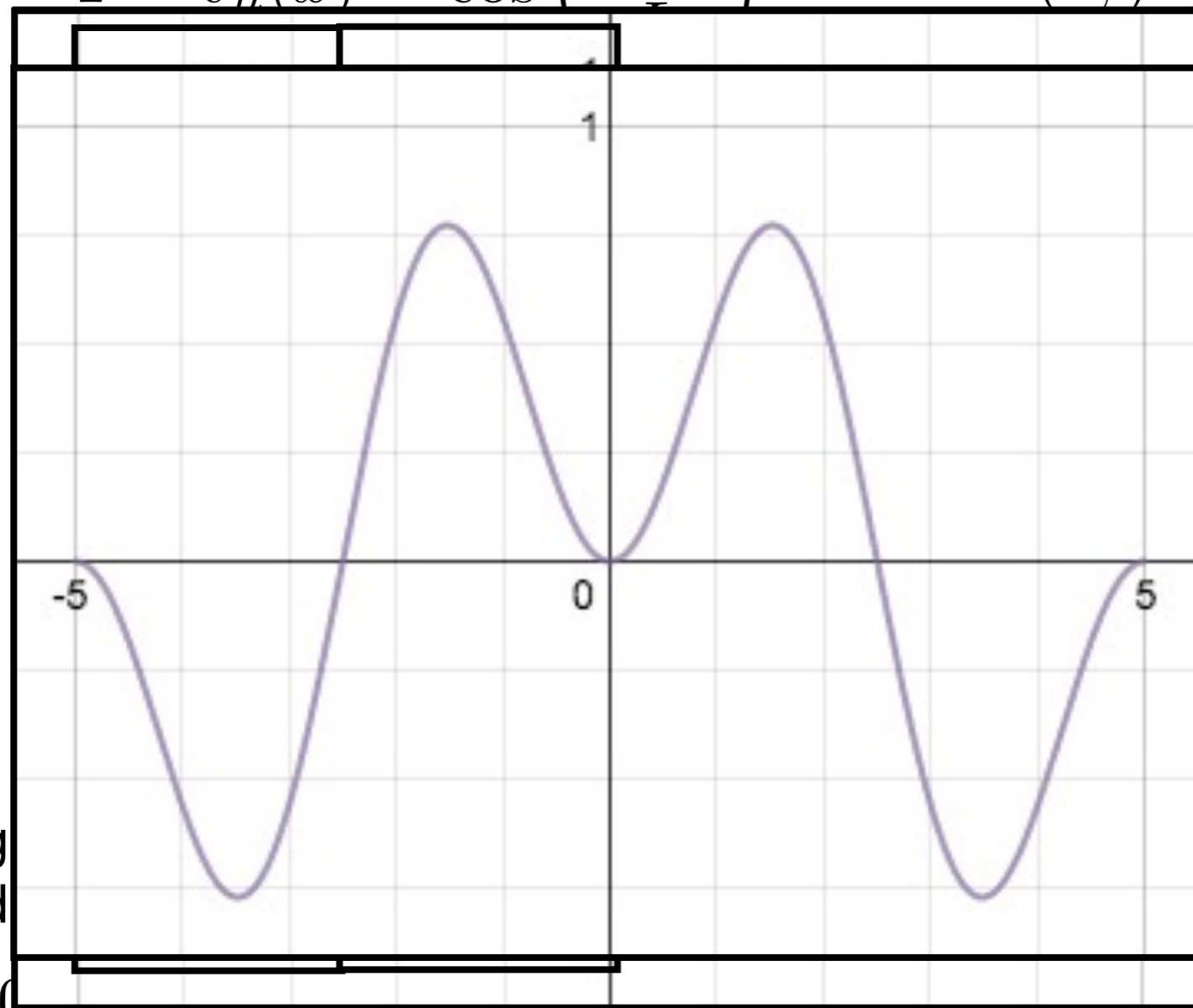
(D)  $n\pi/2$

Integral of a trig  
over one period

$v_0 \circ w_n = 0$

$$v_n \circ v_n = \int_{-L}^L \cos^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = L$$

$$g(x) \circ h(x) = \int_{-L}^L g(x)h(x) dx$$



$(m \neq n)$

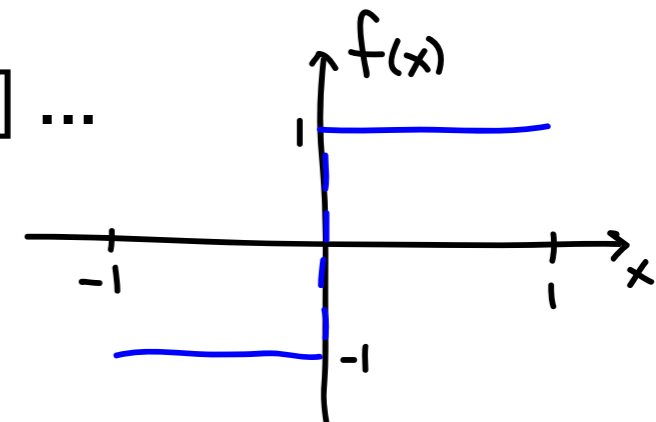
# Fourier series

---

- Defining Fourier series:
- Define a function  $f_{FS}(x)$  on the interval  $[-L,L]$  by choosing coefficients  $A_0$ ,  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  and setting

$$f_{FS}(x) = A_0 + a_1 \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + a_2 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) + \dots$$
$$+ b_1 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + b_2 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) + \dots$$

- This is called a Fourier series. It may or may not converge for different values of  $x$ , depending on the choice of coefficients.
- Given any function  $f(x)$  on  $[-L,L]$ , can it be represented by some  $f_{FS}(x)$ ?
- Let's check for  $f(x) = 2u_0(x)-1$  on the interval  $[-1,1]$  ...



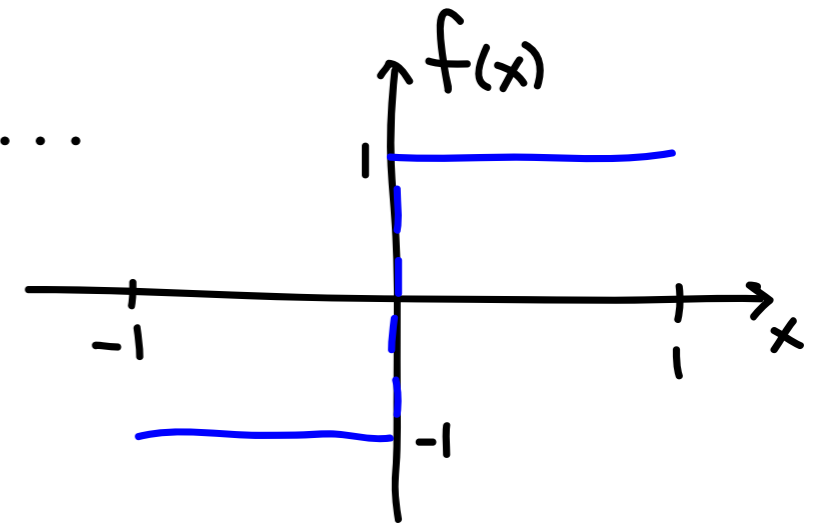


# Fourier series

---

- Find the Fourier series for  $f(x) = 2u_0(x) - 1$  on the interval  $[-1, 1]$ .

$$f_{FS}(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + a_1 \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + a_2 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) + \dots$$
$$+ b_1 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + b_2 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) + \dots$$



- Our hope is that  $f(x) = f_{FS}(x)$  so we calculate coefficients as if they were equal:

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx \quad \text{\textit{A}_0 is the average value of f(x)!}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

- To simplify formulas, usually define

$$a_0 = 2A_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx$$