

Fourier series & orthogonal functions

where t_0 is some time, n is an integer, and T is the period of f).

The Fourier series allows us to write any periodic function as a sum of sinusoidal functions of various amplitudes. This series can be expressed as

, where

Fourier analysis is what we call finding $A_0, A_n, + B_n$ for a given function $y(t)$.

Fourier synthesis is what we call finding $y(t)$ for a given set of amplitudes $A_0, A_n, + B_n$.

We will consider these in detail. First, it is helpful to consider the concept of orthogonal functions.

Orthogonal functions

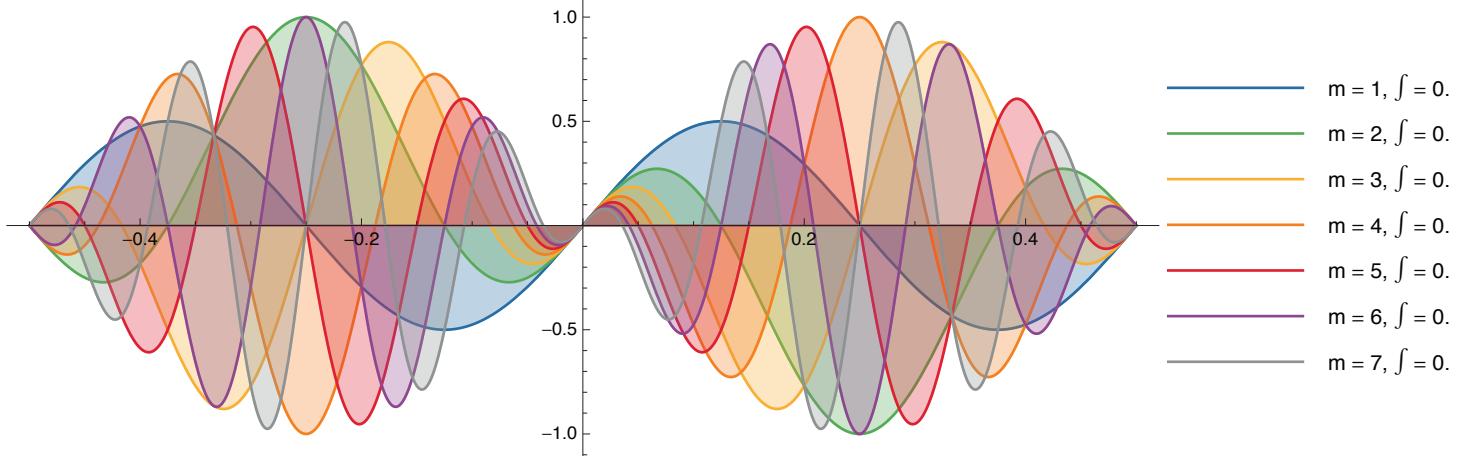
Two functions $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are defined as orthogonal over the interval $a \leq t \leq b$ if the inner product over the interval

$$\int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{T}\tau\right) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi m}{T}\tau\right) d\tau = 0$$

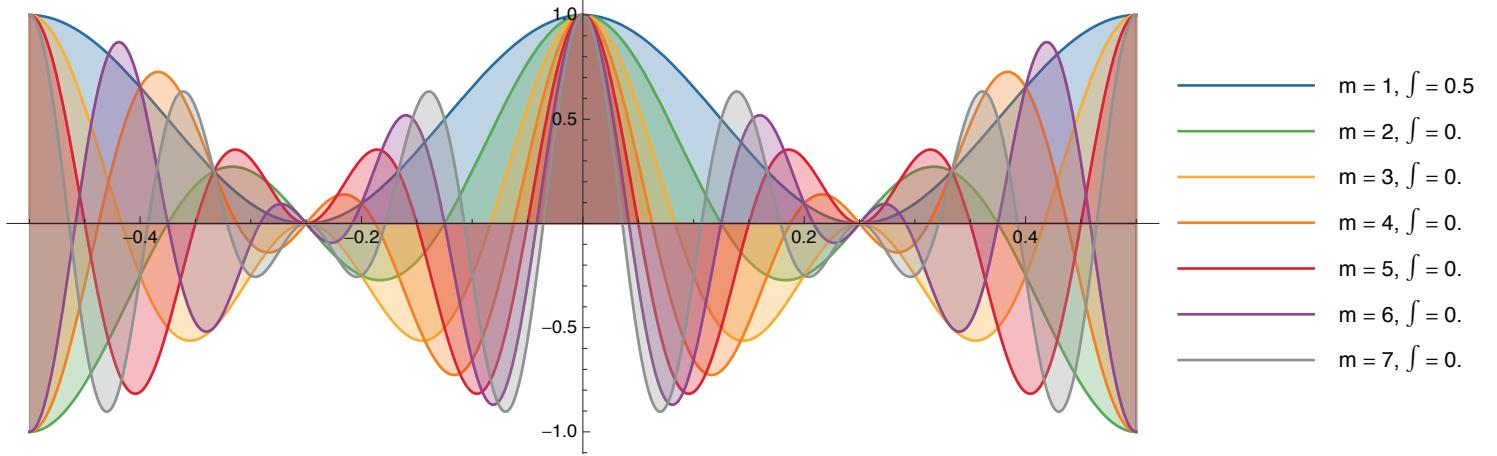
$$\int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{T}\tau\right) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi m}{T}\tau\right) d\tau = \begin{cases} 0 & m \neq n \\ \frac{T}{2} & m = n \neq 0 \\ T & m = n = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{T}\tau\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi m}{T}\tau\right) d\tau = \begin{cases} 0 & m \neq n \\ \frac{T}{2} & m = n \end{cases}$$

$$\sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{T}t\right) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi m}{T}t\right)$$



$$\cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{T}t\right) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi m}{T}t\right)$$



$$\sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{T}t\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi m}{T}t\right)$$

