

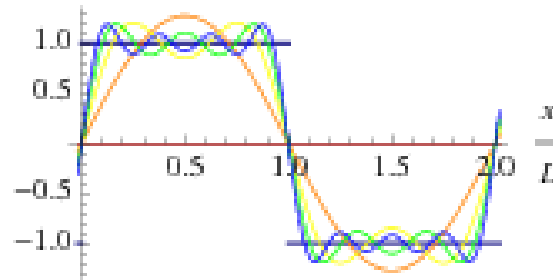
Fourier Transform Applications

Fourier series

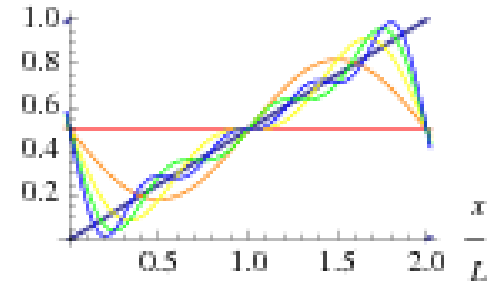
NC State University

Fourier Series

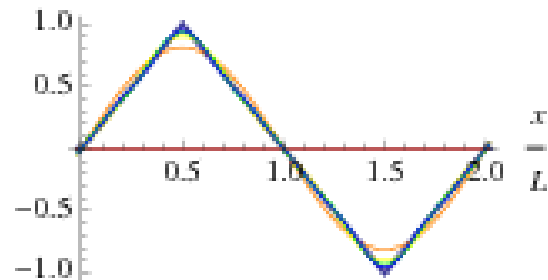
square wave



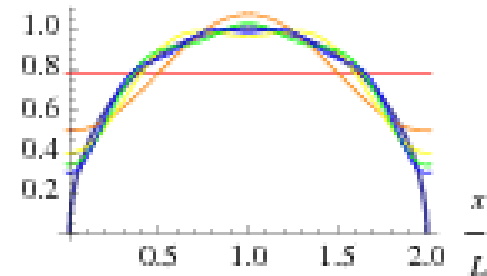
sawtooth wave



triangle wave



semicircle



A Fourier series is an expansion of a periodic function in terms of an infinite sum of sines and cosines. Fourier series make use of the orthogonality of the sine and cosine functions.

Mathematically we can express the Fourier series as:

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

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

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

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