

Addendum Module 9:

Convergence of Series,
with Examples

This lecture is a summary:

four facts about convergence,

three examples to illustrate the facts.

Series Model: $a_p \sin(p x)$.

Fact 1. The Series Model converges in norm if and only if the number sequence $\{ a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots \}$ has the property that $\sum |a_p|^2$ is finite.

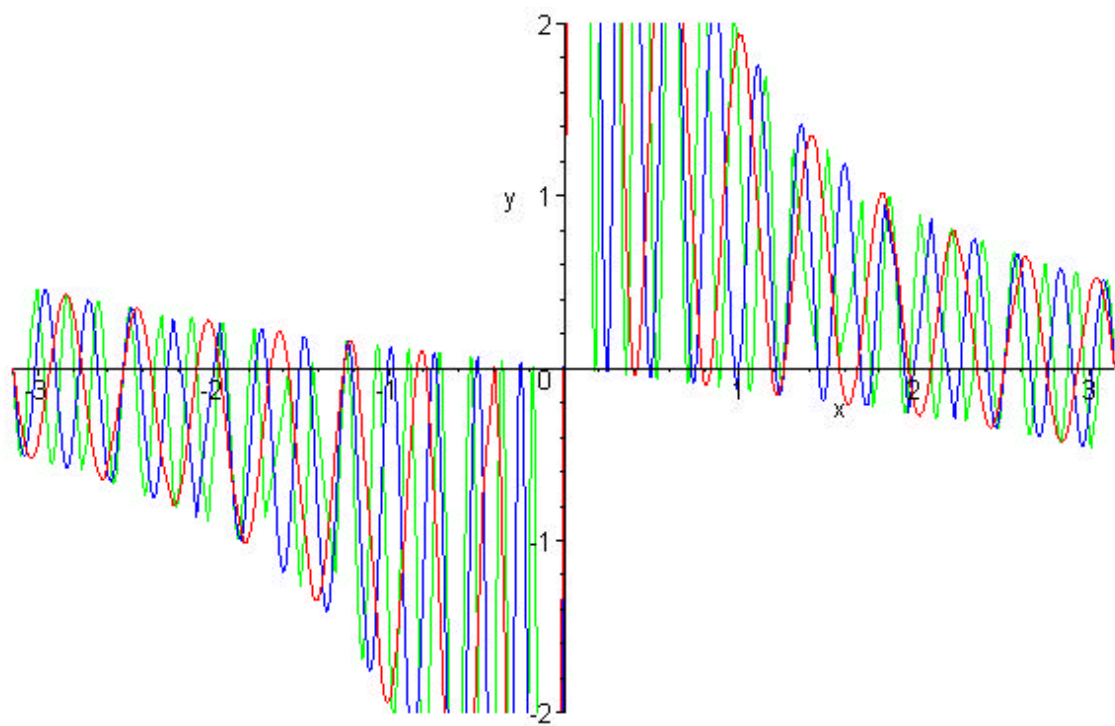
Thus,

$$\sum \sin(p x)$$

does not converge in norm, and

$$\sum \sin(p x)/p$$

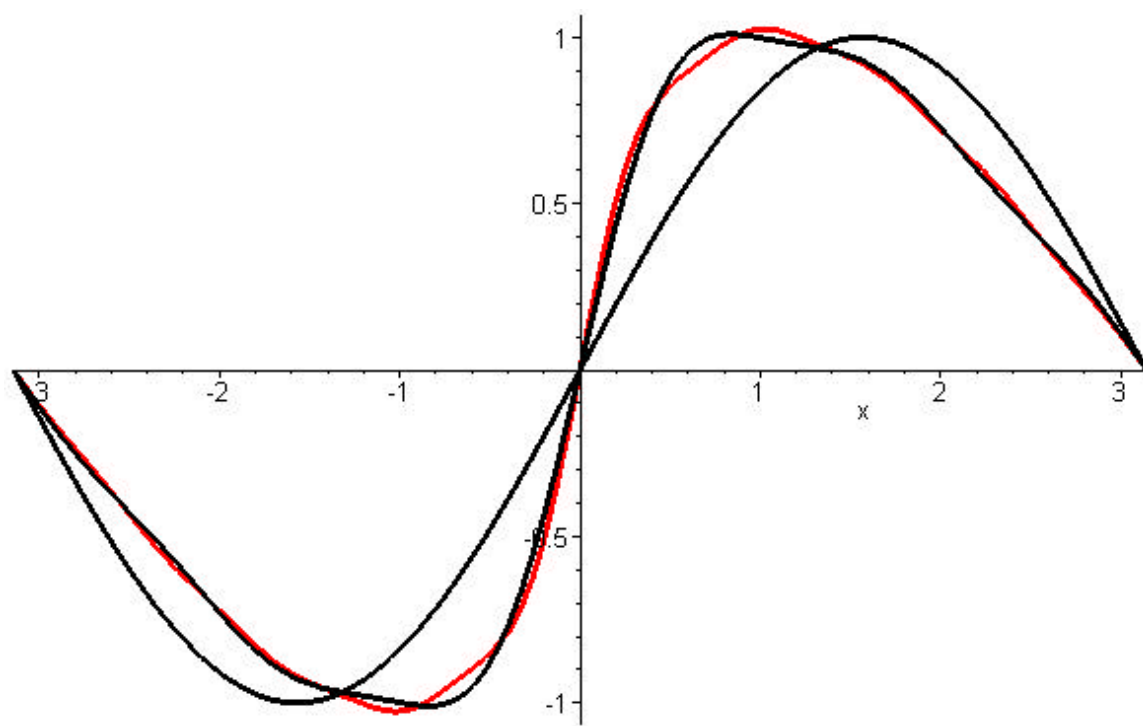
does converge in norm.



Fact 2: If the number sequence has the property that $\sum |a_p|$ is finite then the series model converges uniformly.

Here's why: $\max |a_p \sin(p x)| = |a_p|$

Example: $\sum 1/p^2 \sin(p x)$.



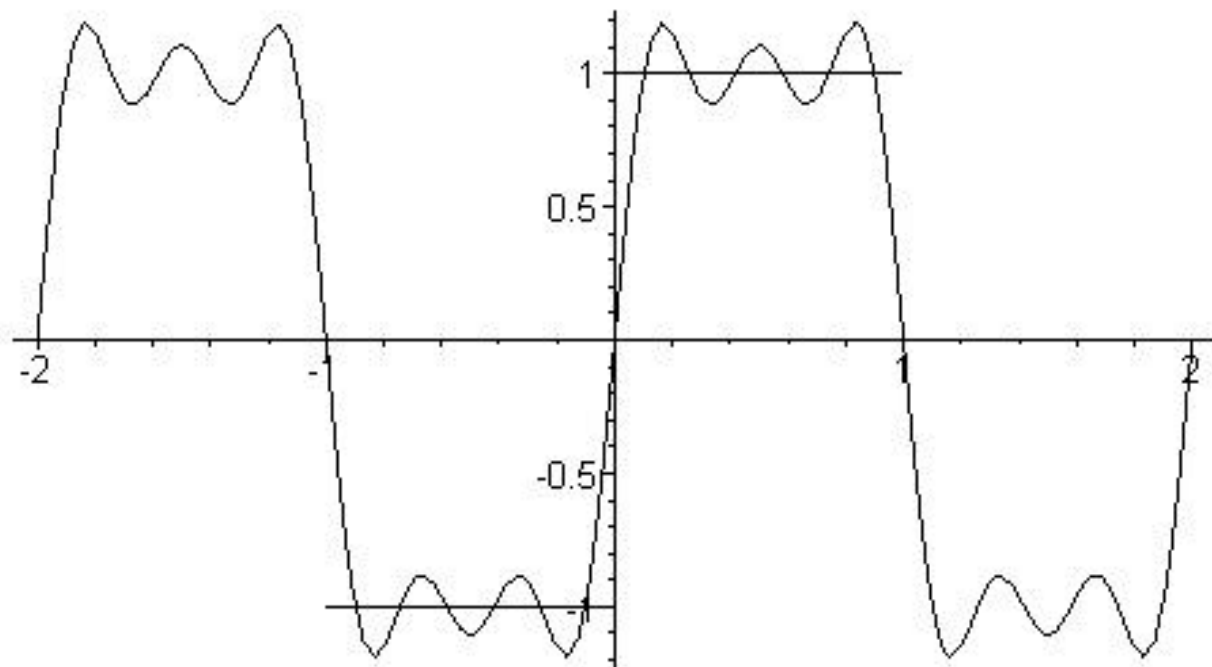
Fact 3: (about pointwise convergence) If the limit function is sectionally smooth and periodic with period 2π , then the series model converges at every x . The limit is

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

Consider the function $\text{signum}(x)$ restricted to $[-\pi, \pi]$ and extended periodically. To what does the function converge at $x = 0$?

Fact 4: If the limit function is not continuous, the series model does not converge uniformly.

Consider the function $\text{signum}(x)$ restricted to $[-\pi, \pi]$ and extended periodically. The Fourier series does converge pointwise but not uniformly.



Why did I make this addendum?

If you are given a function, you might ask: Does the series converge uniformly?

We have a criteria for no.

We have a criteria for yes.

I do not have a necessary and sufficient condition.