

## When linear algebra meets calculus

We have seen that we need to contend with differential equations. Writing conservation laws with differential equations imposes a requirement for the behavior of the functions (fields such as  $p, T, \vec{v}, \rho$ ) that we are solving for.

In this section, we will:

- (-) discuss continuity of functions and how it relates to their differentiability
- (-) use their continuous nature to develop efficient methods of solution to differential equations.

### A. Continuous functions:

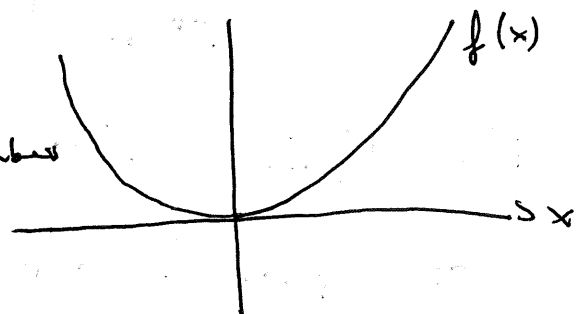
A continuous fct is one you can draw the graph of without needing to lift your pen from the page... not very technical

Mathematically, we use limits to define continuity

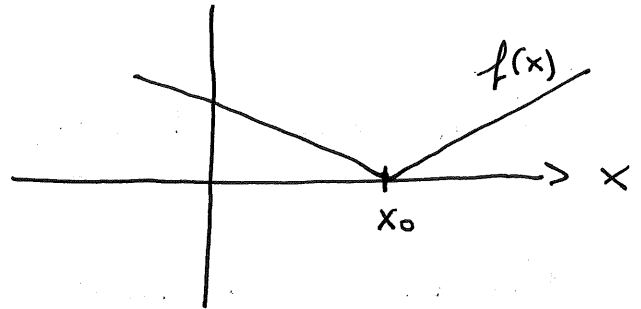
if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$  the function  $f(x)$  is continuous at  $x_0$ !

Examples:  $f(x) = x^2$

is continuous over Real numbers



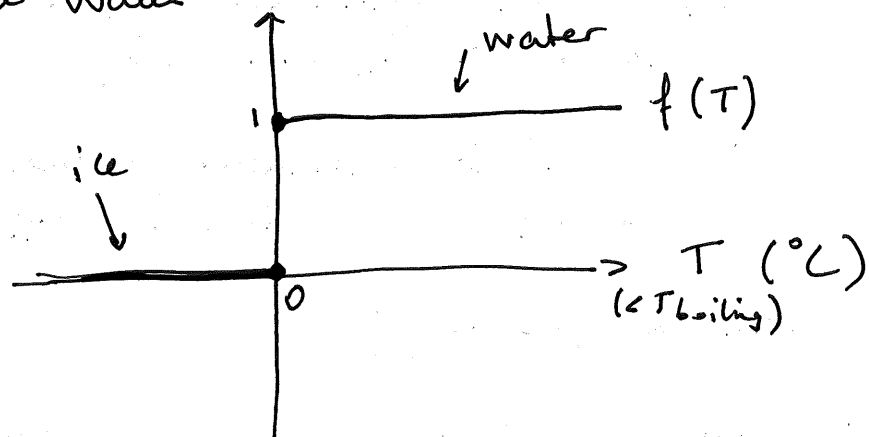
$$f(x) = |x - x_0|$$



is also continuous over  $\mathbb{R}$

Imagine now  $H(T)$ , the enthalpy of a pure substance (water) as function of temperature  $T$ , specifically we will look into how melt fraction (= mass fraction of water in the liquid state) evolves around the phase change at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  ( $p = \text{patm}$ )

For pure water



If we start from negative  $T$ ,  $T_0^- < 0$

$$\lim_{T_0^- \rightarrow 0} f(T) = 0$$

If we start from  $T_0^+ > 0$

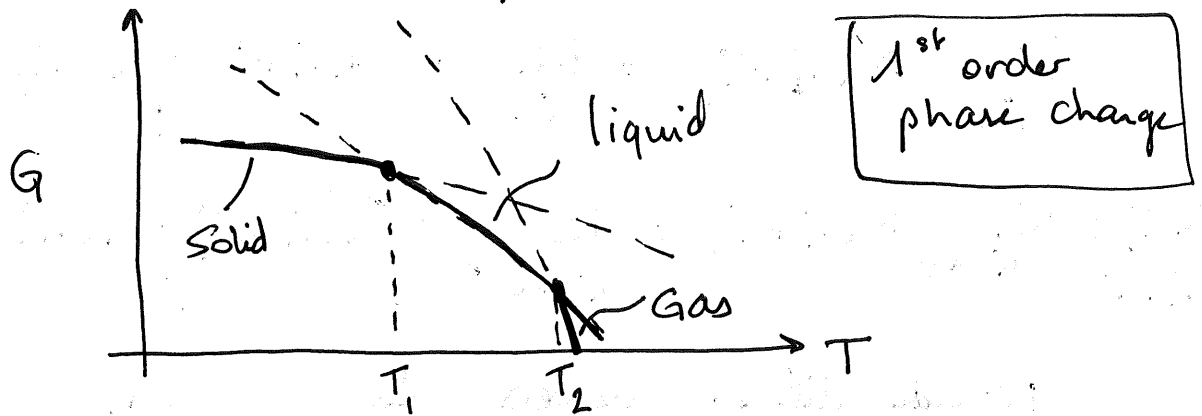
$$\lim_{T_0^+ \rightarrow 0} f(T) = 1$$



The limit  $T \rightarrow 0$   $\lim_{T \rightarrow 0} f(T)$  is not unique

$\Rightarrow f(T)$  is not continuous at  $T = 0$ .

However, Gibbs free energy  $G(p, T, N)$  vs  $T$  is continuous



$T_1 = T$  of fusion  
 $T_2 = T$  of vaporization

$$dG = Vdp - SdT + \mu dN$$

Using the fact that  $G$  has a total derivative  $dG$   
 (see Fundamental Theorem of Calculus)

$$\left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial p}\right)_{T, N} = V ; \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial T}\right)_{p, N} = -S ; \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial N}\right)_{p, T} = \mu$$

For first order phase change we can see that

at fixed  $(p, N)$ : if we consider  $T_0^- \rightarrow T_0^- < T_1$   
 $T_0^+ \rightarrow T_0^+ > T_1$

$$\lim_{T_0^- \rightarrow T_1} S \neq \lim_{T_0^+ \rightarrow T_1} S$$

$\Rightarrow$  Gibbs free energy  $G$  is continuous at  $T_1$

BUT entropy  $S$  is not!

say  $h^+ > 0$  (so that  $T = T_1 + h^+$ ) @ fixed  $p, N$

$$\lim_{h^+ \rightarrow 0} S(T_1 + h^+) = \lim_{h^+ \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{G(T_1 + h^+) - G(T_1)}{h^+} \right]_{p, N}$$

$$\begin{matrix} T < T_1 \\ T = T_1 + h^- \end{matrix} : \lim_{h^- \rightarrow 0} S(T_1 + h^-) = \lim_{h^- \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{G(T_1 + h^-) - G(T_1)}{h^-} \right]_{p, N}$$

provide different answers for  $S(T_1)$

$\Rightarrow S$  not continuous at  $T_1 \Rightarrow \left( \frac{\partial G}{\partial T} \right)_{p, N}$  is not well-defined at  $T = T_1$  (or  $T = T_2$  would be identical)

$\Rightarrow G$  not differentiable with respect to  $T$   
 @  $\begin{cases} T = T_1 \\ T = T_2 \end{cases}$

So a continuous fct can be non-differentiable but differentiable fcts have to be continuous.

Some properties of continuous functions ( $f(x), g(x)$ ):

- if  $f(x)$  is continuous, then if  $\lambda$  is a scalar ( $\in \mathbb{R}$ ) constant  $\rightarrow (*) h(x) = \lambda f(x)$  is continuous as well
- if  $h(x) = \lambda f(x) + \mu g(x)$ ,  $\lambda$  &  $\mu$  are constants then  $h(x)$  is continuous as well
- if  $(*)$  is true, then  $\lambda = -1 \Rightarrow h(x) = -f(x)$   
 &  $0 = h(x) + f(x)$  is also continuous

sounds a bit like vectors, right?

if  $\vec{v}_1$  vector,  $\vec{v}_2 = \lambda \vec{v}_1$ ,  $\lambda$  scalar,  $\vec{v}_2$  is a vector that lives in space with same # of dimensions as  $\vec{v}_1$

• if  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  vectors in n-dimensions

$\vec{v}_3 = \lambda \vec{v}_1 + \mu \vec{v}_2$  ( $\lambda, \mu$  scalars  $\in \mathbb{R}$ ) is another vector

• if  $\lambda = -1$  &  $\vec{v}_2 = \lambda \vec{v}_1 \Rightarrow \vec{v}_2 = -\vec{v}_1$

&  $\vec{v}_3 = \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}$  in that case.

### Vectorial space (VS)

Intuitively, a vectorial space is a structure that contains vectors & obeys certain rules concerning how one can manipulate these vectors.

- mathematically a vectorial space (VS) is a space where if  $u, v$  are elements (vectors) &  $\lambda, \mu$  scalars (numbers)

•  $(\lambda + \mu)u = \lambda u + \mu u$

•  $u + v = v + u$

•  $(\lambda \mu)u = \lambda(\mu u)$

• there is an element (vector)  $0 = u - u$

& by extension every  $u$  admits an opposite  $-u$

VS are also provide an inner product (scalar product)

vectors  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  &  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  where for example  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \lambda$

take for example  $\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{pmatrix}$ ;  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + u_3 v_3 = \sum_j u_j v_j = \lambda$$

Why does it matter to us with continuous functions  $f(x), g(x)$ ? Let's define the space of all continuous functions  $\mathcal{C}^0$

$$\begin{aligned} f: \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ g: \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} &\text{(the same will be true} \\ &\text{for } f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n) \end{aligned}$$

if  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$  are constants.

The space  $\mathcal{C}^0$  is a vectorial space, because we can sum  $f(x) + g(x)$  and multiply by scalars  $\lambda, \mu$  to show that  $\mathcal{C}^0$  satisfies all the conditions of a vectorial space.

What about the inner product? (A sense of metric (magnitude) for "vectors").

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{a,b} = \int_a^b f(x) g(x) dx \quad \text{is the scalar product over the interval } [a; b] \text{ in } \mathcal{C}^0$$

Same as your favorite vectors  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \dots$

if  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} (= \langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle) = 0$  then  $\vec{u}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{v}$

well if  $\langle f, g \rangle_{a,b} = 0 \Rightarrow f, g$  are said to be orthogonal

### Vectorial basis:

In a vectorial space, we can define (not unique) a set (minimal) of vectors that allow us to reconstruct any vectors by multiplication with scalars & addition.

For instance a set of vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_N \in \mathbb{R}^n$  constitutes a vectorial basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if

- Any vector  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  can be written as

$$\vec{u} = \lambda_1 \vec{v}_1 + \lambda_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j \vec{v}_j \quad \text{with } \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N \text{ scalars } (\in \mathbb{R})$$

- &  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots$  are linearly independent

i.e.  $\sum_j \lambda_j \vec{v}_j = \vec{0}$  only if  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N = 0$

Some notes here

- (i) the # of vectors that belong to a vectorial basis is equal to the dimension of the vectorial space.

in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}$  form a basis  
 $r, \theta, \varphi$  (spherical coordinates)  
 $r, \theta, z$  (cylindrical " " )

(ii) if vectors in the basis are orthogonal to each other  $\langle \vec{v}_i, \vec{v}_j \rangle = 0 \quad i \neq j$

if  $\vec{u} = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j \vec{v}_j$ , then  $\lambda_j = \langle \vec{u}, \vec{v}_j \rangle$

Coefficients  $\lambda_j$  are projection of  $\vec{u}$  onto  $\vec{v}_j$ .

Back to our continuous functions and vectorial space  $\mathcal{C}^0$

Let's think about bases (non-unique) to write down these continuous functions

$$f(x) = \sum_j \lambda_j v_j(x)$$

$v_j(x)$  is a continuous function  $v_j: X \in \mathbb{R} \mapsto v_j(x) \in \mathbb{R}$

- How many linearly independent fcts  $v_j(x)$  do you need to span  $\mathcal{C}^0$ ? (Dimension of  $\mathcal{C}^0$ )

What if  $v_j(x) = x^j$  let's consider  $x \in [0, 1]$   
a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}$

$$\sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j = 0 \quad \text{only if } a_j \text{ are all } = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  linearly independent!

that means that  $x^{n+1}$  can't be written as a linear combination  $\sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j$



there is an infinite # of functions  $V_j(x) = x^j$   
that are all linearly independent of  $V_k(x)$ ,  $k \neq j$

$\Rightarrow$  Dimension of  $\mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$  is infinite

$\Rightarrow$  Basis of  $\mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$  requires an infinite # of elements

Some famous examples of vectorial bases for  $\mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$ :

A. Taylor expansion series:

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k g_k(x) \quad \dots \quad g_k(x) = x^k$$

$$a_0 = f(0)$$

$$a_1 = \left( \frac{df}{dx} \right)_{x=0} ; \quad a_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \right)_{x=0}$$

$$a_k = \frac{1}{k!} \left( \frac{d^k f}{dx^k} \right)_{x=0}$$

$\Rightarrow$  polynomial basis  $g_k(x)$

$$f(x) = f(0) + \underbrace{\frac{df}{dx} \Big|_{x=0}}_{\substack{\text{1st order} \\ \text{"correction"}}} x + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \Big|_{x=0}}_{\substack{\text{2nd order} \\ \dots}} x^2 + \dots$$

well intuition is simple here, if  $x$  is divided on both sides

$$\frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x} = \frac{df}{dx} \Big|_{x=0} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \Big|_{x=0} x + \dots \quad O(x^2)$$

as  $x \rightarrow 0$  (limit

$$\begin{aligned} \text{limit: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \underbrace{\frac{df}{dx} \Big|_{x=0}} + \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \underbrace{\left[ \frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \Big|_{x=0} x + O(x^2) \right]} \\ &= \frac{df}{dx} \Big|_{x=0} \quad \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

Definition of derivative

Taylor series: predicting  $f(x)$  from  $x_0=0$   $f(x_0=0)$   
requires only slope at  $x_0=0$  if  $x \rightarrow x_0=0$   
but if  $x - x_0 \rightarrow 0$  "fast enough", then need higher  
correction terms (quadratic ...) to improve accuracy  
of  $f(x)$

Another idea for bases is to decompose a function into simple  
periodic functions with different "frequencies"

here frequency  $\rightarrow$  wavelength if  $x$  represents  
lengthscale / position

$\rightarrow$  angular frequency or period  
if  $x$  refers to time

B. Sine & Cosine Series

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k g_k(x)$$

$$g_k(x) = \sin(\pi k x) \text{ or } \cos(\pi k x)$$

Let's start with the cosine fct as a possible basis for  $\mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$ .

First,  $\cos(x)$  is continuous for  $x \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \in \mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$

$\Rightarrow \cos(\pi k x)$  for  $k=0, 1, \dots \in \mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$

Actually,  $\frac{d\cos(x)}{dx} = -\sin(x)$  &  $\frac{d\sin(x)}{dx} = \cos(x)$

so  $\cos(x) \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow$  infinitely continuous & differentiable.

- Can we build a basis with  $\cos(\pi k x)$  for  $\mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$ ?

$\Rightarrow$  they would need to "span" the whole space  $\mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$ , i.e. there exist  $a_k$ 's such that

$$f(x) = \sum_k a_k \cos(\pi k x) \quad \text{for any } f(x) \in \mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$$

is that true?

$\Rightarrow$  No .... only even functions  $\mathcal{C}_E^0(\mathbb{R}) \subset \mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos(-x) = \cos(x) &\Rightarrow f(x) = \sum_k a_k \cos(\pi k x) \\ &= f(-x) ! \end{aligned}$$

So  $\cos(\pi k x)$ ,  $k=0, 1, \dots$  can form a basis potentially for even-continuous fcts  $\in \mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R})$

that subspace is also infinite in dimension.

Orthogonality of  $\cos(\pi kx)$  for different  $k$ 's.

$$I_{k,k'} \equiv \langle \cos(\pi kx), \cos(\pi k'x) \rangle \equiv \int_{-1}^1 \cos(\pi kx) \cos(\pi k'x) dx$$

is the scalar product

(takes 2 functions  $f(x), g(x) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and yields a scalar value)

$$I_{k,k'} = 2 \int_0^1 \cos(\pi kx) \cos(\pi k'x) dx \quad (\text{even fets})$$

what if  $k=k'=0$ ?

$$I_{0,0} = 2 \int_0^1 dx = 2$$

if  $k=k' \neq 0$ ,

$$I_{k,k} = 2 \int_0^1 \cos^2(\pi kx) dx$$

we

$$\cos \alpha \cos \beta = \frac{1}{2} [\cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cos(\alpha + \beta)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos^2(\pi kx) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \underbrace{\cos(0)}_1 + \cos(2\pi kx) \right]$$

$$I_{k,k} = 1 + \int_0^1 \cos(2\pi kx) dx = 1 + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\pi k} \sin(2\pi kx)}_0 \Big|_0^1$$

$$I_{k,k} = 1 \quad \text{for any } k=k' \neq 0$$

what if  $k \neq k'$

$$\begin{aligned} I_{k,k'} &= 2 \int_0^1 \cos(\pi kx) \cos(\pi k'x) dx = \frac{2}{2} \int_0^1 [\cos(\pi(k-k')x) + \cos(\pi(k+k')x)] dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \cos(\pi(k-k')x) dx + \int_0^1 \cos(\pi(k+k')x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi(k-k')} \sin(\pi(k-k')x) \Big|_0^1 + \frac{1}{\pi(k+k')} \sin(\pi(k+k')x) \Big|_0^1 = \underline{\underline{0}} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \cos(\pi kx)$  is orthogonal to  $\cos(\pi k'x)$  if  $k \neq k'$ !

$\Rightarrow$  orthogonal basis

That is great because we can now easily compute coefficients  $a_k$  from  $f(x)$

$$\text{If } f(x) = \sum_k a_k \cos(\pi kx)$$

$$f(x) \cos(\pi k'x) = \sum_k a_k \cos(\pi kx) \cos(\pi k'x)$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) \cos(\pi k'x) dx = \sum_k a_k \underbrace{\int_{-1}^1 \cos(\pi kx) \cos(\pi k'x) dx}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } k \neq k' \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

or 2 if  $k'=k=0$

$\Rightarrow$  from orthogonality of  $\cos(\pi kx)$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{a_k = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \cos(\pi kx) dx}$$

Similarly for odd functions  $f(x)$

$$f(x) = \sum_k a_k \sin(\pi kx)$$

$\sin(\pi kx)$  form orthogonal basis with

$$a_k = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \sin(\pi kx) dx$$

An example using the sine ~~function~~ series to solve a differential equation

Let's take a diffusion equation (more later on those...)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{with initial condition } u(x, t=0) = f(x)$$

& boundary conditions:

$$u(0, t) = 0$$
$$u(1, t) = 0$$

assume  $u(x, t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k(t) \sin(k\pi x)$

First comment: that choice satisfies boundary conditions

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{da_k}{dt} \sin(k\pi x)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k a_k \cos(k\pi x)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^2 a_k \sin(k\pi x)$$

our PDE then looks like

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{da_k}{dt} \sin(k\pi x) = - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^2 a_k \sin(k\pi x)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{da_k}{dt} + k^2 a_k \right] \sin(k\pi x) = 0$$

Orthogonality of  $\sin(x) \dots$  multiply by  $\sin(k'\pi x)$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{da_k}{dt} + k^2 a_k \right] \sin(k\pi x) \sin(k'\pi x) = 0$$

$$\frac{da_{k'}}{dt} + k'^2 a_{k'} = 0 \quad \text{that is true for all } k'$$

$$a_{k'} = A_k \exp(-k'^2 t)$$

$$a_{k'}(t=0) = A_k$$

$$u(x, t=0) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k \sin(k\pi x) = f(x)$$

Solving for  $A_k$

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k \sin(k\pi x)$$

Same trick

$$f(x) \sin(k'\pi x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k \sin(k\pi x) \sin(k'\pi x)$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) \sin(k'\pi x) dx = A_{k'}$$

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k \exp(-k^2 \Delta t) \sin(k\pi x)$$

$$\text{with } A_k = \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \sin(k\pi x) dx$$

### • Fourier Series

No problem for odd or even ~~one~~ functions, but limited to periodic functions. If  $f(x)$  is a periodic function, we can combine sine & cosine series to build

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \cos(k\pi x) + b_k \sin(k\pi x)$$

where again  $a_k$ 's and  $b_k$ 's can be retrieved using orthogonality of both bases.