

Physics 42200
Waves & Oscillations

Lecture 15 – French, Chapter 6

Spring 2015 Semester

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Review of Coupled Oscillators

- General observations:

- Forces depend on positions x_i of multiple masses
- Coupled set of differential equations

$$m_i \ddot{x}_i = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$$
$$\ddot{x}_i = \frac{1}{m_i} F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$$

- In the problems we will consider, $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$ is a linear function of x_i

$$\ddot{\vec{x}} + \mathbf{A} \vec{x} = 0$$
$$(\mathbf{A} - \omega^2 \mathbf{I}) \vec{x} = 0$$

- If this is true then

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \omega^2 \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

- The eigenvalues of the matrix \mathbf{A} are ω^2

Review of Coupled Oscillators

- In general, a system with N masses can have N distinct eigenvalues

$$(\mathbf{A} - \omega_i^2 \mathbf{I}) \vec{u}_i = 0$$

- There are N eigenvectors \vec{u}_i
- The eigenvectors are orthogonal:

$$\vec{u}_i \cdot \vec{u}_j = 0 \text{ when } i \neq j$$

- If \vec{u}_i is an eigenvector, then so is $\alpha \vec{u}_i$ for any real number α .
- The eigenvectors can be normalized so that

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u}_i \cdot \vec{u}_i &= 1 \\ \vec{u}_i \cdot \vec{u}_j &= \delta_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

Review of Coupled Oscillators

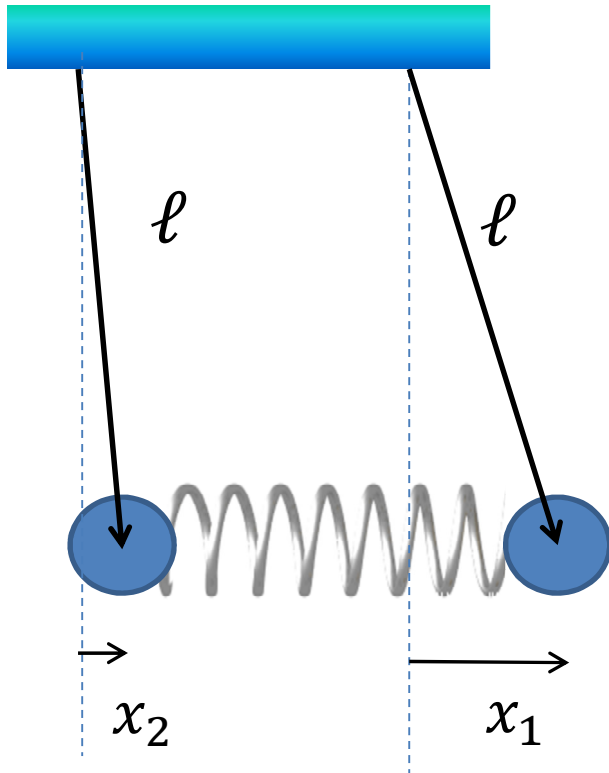
- An arbitrary vector \vec{x} can be expressed as a linear combination of eigenvectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{x} &= a_1 \vec{u}_1 + a_2 \vec{u}_2 + \cdots + a_N \vec{u}_N \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N a_i \vec{u}_i\end{aligned}$$

- How do we solve for the coefficients a_i ?

$$\vec{u}_j \cdot \vec{x} = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i \vec{u}_j \cdot \vec{u}_i = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i \delta_{ij} = a_j$$

Two Coupled Oscillators



- The spring is stretched by the amount $x_1 - x_2$
- Restoring force on pendulum 1:
- Restoring force on pendulum 2:

$$F_1 = -k(x_1 - x_2)$$

$$F_2 = k(x_1 - x_2)$$

$$m\ddot{x}_1 + \frac{mg}{\ell}x_1 + k(x_1 - x_2) = 0$$

$$m\ddot{x}_2 + \frac{mg}{\ell}x_2 - k(x_1 - x_2) = 0$$

Two Coupled Oscillators

$$\ddot{x}_1 + [(\omega_0)^2 + (\omega_c)^2]x_1 - (\omega_c)^2x_2 = 0$$
$$\ddot{x}_2 + [(\omega_0)^2 + (\omega_c)^2]x_2 - (\omega_c)^2x_1 = 0$$

- Eigenvalues are

$$\omega_1^2 = \omega_0^2$$
$$\omega_2^2 = (\omega_0)^2 + 2(\omega_c)^2$$

- Eigenvectors are

$$\vec{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\vec{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Two Coupled Oscillators

- Normal modes of oscillation:

$$\vec{q}_1(t) = \vec{u}_1 \cos(\omega_1 t)$$

$$\vec{q}_2(t) = \vec{u}_2 \cos(\omega_2 t)$$

- General solution:

$$\vec{x}(t) = A \vec{u}_1 \cos(\omega_1 t + \alpha) + B \vec{u}_2 \cos(\omega_2 t + \beta)$$

- Initial conditions: $\vec{x}(0) = \vec{x}_0, \dot{\vec{x}}(0) = \vec{v}_0$

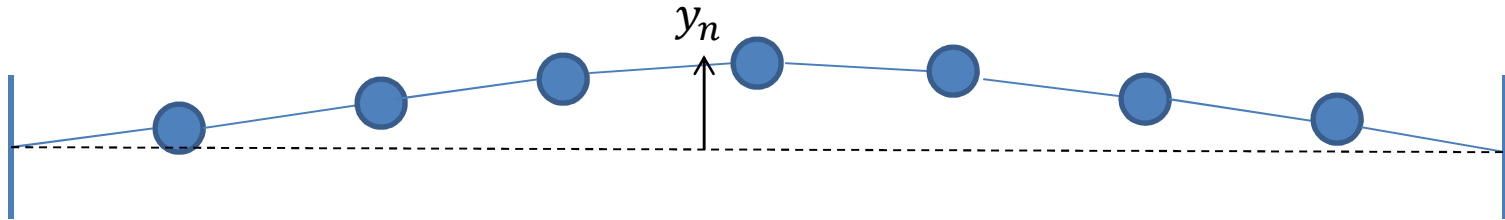
$$\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{x}_0 = A \cos \alpha$$

$$\vec{u}_2 \cdot \vec{x}_0 = B \cos \beta$$

$$\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_0 = -A\omega_1 \sin \alpha$$

$$\vec{u}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_0 = -B\omega_2 \sin \beta$$

Many Coupled Oscillators



- Equation of motion for mass n :

$$m \ddot{y}_n = F_n = \frac{T}{\ell} [(y_{n+1} - y_n) - (y_n - y_{n-1})]$$
$$\ddot{y}_n + 2(\omega_0)^2 y_n - (\omega_0)^2 (y_{n+1} + y_{n-1}) = 0$$
$$(\omega_0)^2 = \frac{T}{m\ell}$$

- Frequencies of normal modes of oscillation:

$$\omega_k = 2\omega_0 \sin \left(\frac{k\pi}{2(N+1)} \right)$$

Many Coupled Oscillators

- Eigenvalues:

$$\omega_k = 2\omega_0 \sin\left(\frac{k\pi}{2(N+1)}\right)$$

- Eigenvectors:

$$u_{kn} = \sin\left(\frac{nk\pi}{N+1}\right)$$

- Orthogonality:

$$\vec{u}_i \cdot \vec{u}_j = \frac{N}{2} \delta_{ij}$$

Many Coupled Oscillators

- General solution:

$$x_n(t) = \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \sin\left(\frac{nk\pi}{N+1}\right) \cos(\omega_k t - \theta_k)$$

- At time $t = 0$,

$$x_n(0) = \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \sin\left(\frac{nk\pi}{N+1}\right) \cos(\theta_k)$$

- Consider the expression:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n(0) \sin\left(\frac{nk'\pi}{N+1}\right) &= \sum_{n,k=1}^N a_k \cos \theta_k \sin\left(\frac{nk'\pi}{N+1}\right) \sin\left(\frac{nk\pi}{N+1}\right) \\ &= \frac{N}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \cos \theta_k \delta_{k'k} = \frac{N}{2} a_{k'} \cos \theta_{k'} \end{aligned}$$

Many Coupled Oscillators

- Likewise, consider the time derivatives:

$$\dot{x}_n(t) = - \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \omega_k \sin\left(\frac{nk\pi}{N+1}\right) \sin(\omega_k t - \theta_k)$$

$$\dot{x}_n(0) = \sum_{k=1}^N \underbrace{a_k \omega_k \sin \theta_k}_{\text{constants}} \sin\left(\frac{nk\pi}{N+1}\right)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \dot{x}_n(0) \sin\left(\frac{nk'\pi}{N+1}\right) = \frac{N}{2} a_{k'} \omega_{k'} \sin \theta_{k'}$$

- If the initial velocities were all zero, then
 $\theta_k = 0$ for $k = 1, \dots, N$

Continuous Systems

- What happens when the number of masses goes to infinity, while the linear mass density remains constant?

$$m \ddot{y}_n = \frac{T}{\ell} [(y_{n+1} - y_n) - (y_n - y_{n-1})]$$

$$\frac{m}{\ell} \rightarrow \mu$$

$$\frac{y_{n+1} - y_n}{\ell} \rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right)_{x+\Delta x} \quad \frac{(y_n - y_{n-1})}{\ell} \rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right)_x$$

$$\mu \ell \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = T \left[\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right)_{x+\Delta x} - \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right)_x \right]$$

Continuous Systems

$$\mu \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = T \frac{\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_{x+\Delta x} - \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_x}{\ell}$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = T \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\mu}{T} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$$

The Wave Equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} \qquad v = \sqrt{T/\mu}$$

Solutions

- When we had N masses, the solutions were

$$y_{n,k}(t) = A_{n,k} \cos(\omega_k t - \delta_k)$$

- n labels the mass along the string
- With a continuous system, n is replaced by x .

- Proposed solution to the wave equation for the continuous string:

$$y(x, t) = f(x) \cos \omega t$$

- Derivatives:

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = -\omega^2 f(x) \cos \omega t$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \cos \omega t$$

Solutions

- Substitute into the wave equation:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} &= -\frac{\omega^2}{v^2} f(x) \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\omega^2}{v^2} f(x) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

- This is the same differential equation as for the harmonic oscillator.
- Solutions are $f(x) = A \sin(\omega x/v) + B \cos(\omega x/v)$

Solutions

$$f(x) = A \sin(\omega x/v) + B \cos(\omega x/v)$$

- Boundary conditions at the ends of the string:

$$f(0) = f(L) = 0$$

$$f(x) = A \sin(\omega x/v) \text{ where } \omega L/v = n\pi$$

$$\omega_n = \frac{n\pi v}{L}$$

- Solutions can be written:





$$y_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

- Normal modes of oscillation:

$$q_n(x, t) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos \omega_n t$$

Properties of the Solutions

$$q_n(x, t) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos \omega_n t$$

	mode	wavelength	frequency
	first	$2L$	$\frac{v}{2L}$
	second	L	$\frac{v}{L}$
	third	$\frac{2L}{3}$	$\frac{3v}{2L}$
	fourth	$\frac{L}{2}$	$\frac{2v}{L}$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{2L}{n}$$

$$\omega_n = \frac{n\pi v}{L}$$

$$f_n = \frac{nv}{2L}$$

Fourier Analysis

- In this case we define the “dot product” as an integral:

$$f \cdot y_n = \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

- Are $y_n(x)$ orthogonal?

$$\begin{aligned} y_n \cdot y_m &= \int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{(n-m)\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{(n+m)\pi x}{L}\right) dx \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\int_0^L} \right\} \begin{array}{l} = 0 \text{ when} \\ n \neq m \end{array}$$

Fourier Analysis

- But when $n = m$,

$$\begin{aligned} y_n \cdot y_m &= \int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{(n-m)\pi x}{L}\right) dx - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L dx = \frac{L}{2} \end{aligned}$$

- So we can write

$$y_n \cdot y_m = \frac{L}{2} \delta_{nm}$$

Initial Value Problem

$$f(x) = \sum_n a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$$y_n \cdot f = \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$= \int_0^L \left[\sum_m a_m \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) \right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$= \sum_m a_m y_m \cdot y_n = \frac{L}{2} \sum_m a_m \delta_{mn} = \frac{L}{2} a_n$$

Initial Value Problem

$$f(x) = \sum_n a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

Now we know how to calculate a_n from the initial conditions... we have solved the initial value problem.

Initial Value Problem

- The functions $y_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$ are like the eigenvectors
- They are orthogonal in the sense that

$$\int_0^L y_n(x) y_m(x) dx = \frac{L}{2} \delta_{nm}$$

- An arbitrary function $f(x)$ which satisfies $f(0) = f(L) = 0$ can be written:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

- How do we determine the coefficients a_k ?

Initial Value Problem

- Multiply $f(x)$ by $y_n(x)$ and integrate:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^L f(x)y_n(x)dx &= \int_0^L \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m y_m(x)y_n(x)dx \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \left(\int_0^L y_m(x)y_n(x)dx \right) \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^L a_m \left(\frac{L}{2} \delta_{mn} \right) = \frac{L}{2} a_n\end{aligned}$$

- Therefore,

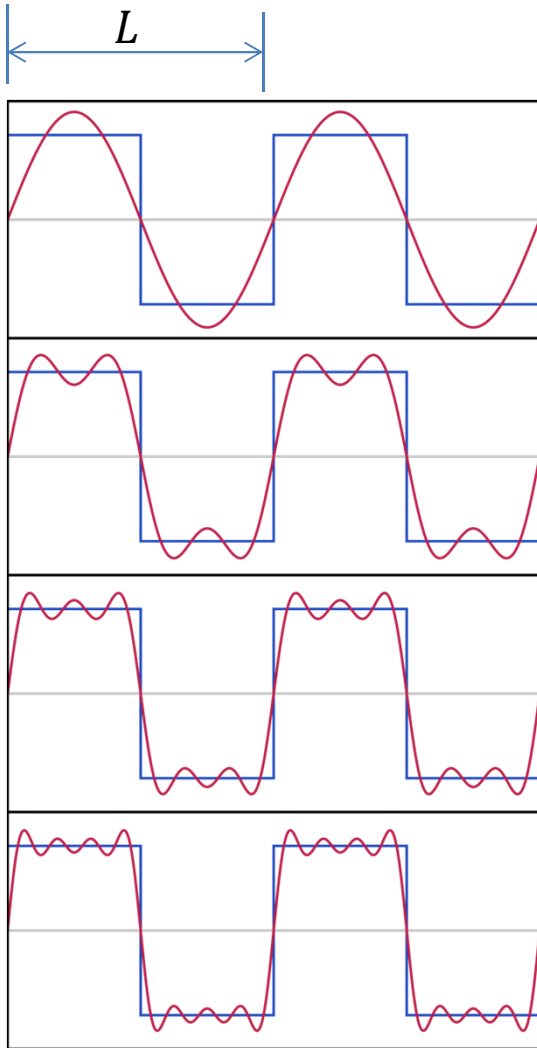
$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x)y_n(x)dx$$

Example

- How to describe a square wave in terms of normal modes:

$$u(x) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{when } 0 < x < L/2 \\ -1 & \text{when } L/2 < x < L \end{cases}$$
$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{L/2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx - \frac{2}{L} \int_{L/2}^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$
$$= \frac{2}{n\pi} [1 - \cos(n\pi)]$$
$$a_1 = \frac{4}{\pi}, a_3 = \frac{4}{3\pi}, a_5 = \frac{4}{5\pi}, \dots$$

Example



$$a_n = \frac{2}{n\pi} [1 - \cos(n\pi)]$$

$$a_1 = \frac{4}{\pi}, a_3 = \frac{4}{3\pi}, a_5 = \frac{4}{5\pi}, \dots$$

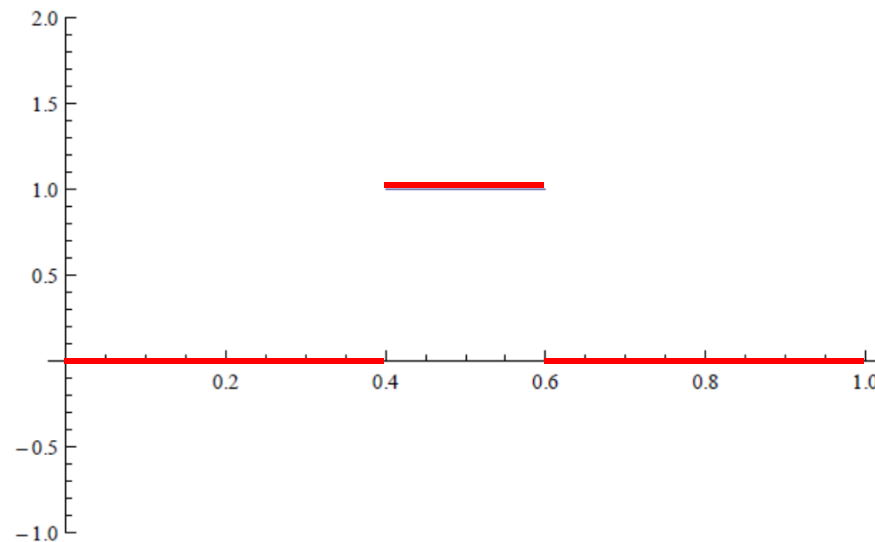
$$a_2 = 0, a_4 = 0, a_6 = 0, \dots$$

The initial shape doesn't really satisfy the boundary conditions $y(0) = y(L) = 0$, but the approximation does.

Other Examples

- Consider an initial displacement in the middle of the string:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{when } x < 2L/5 \\ 1 & \text{when } 2L/5 < x < 3L/5 \\ 0 & \text{when } x > 3L/5 \end{cases}$$



Let's assume
 $L = 1$ and
 $v = 1$

Example

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_{2L/5}^{3L/5} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$a[n_] := \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f[x] \sin\left[\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right] dx$$

```
f[x_] = Piecewise[{{0, x < 2/5}, {1, x > 2/5 && x < 3/5}, {0, x > 3/5}}]
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Table[a[n], {n, M}]
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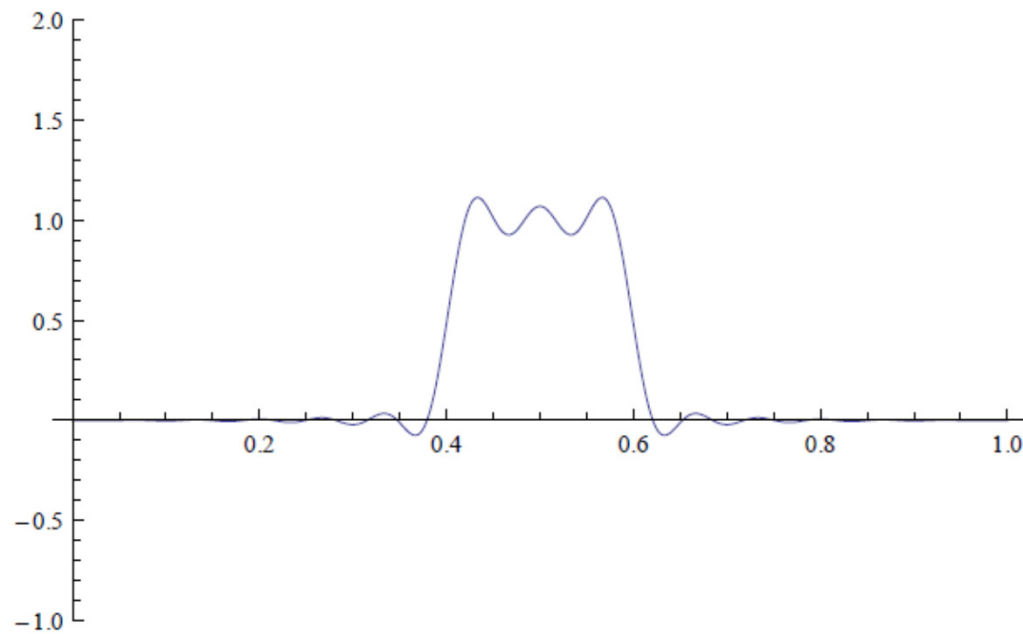
$$\left\{ \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{\pi}, 0, \frac{-1-\sqrt{5}}{3\pi}, 0, \frac{4}{5\pi}, 0, \frac{-1-\sqrt{5}}{7\pi}, 0, \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{9\pi}, 0, \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{11\pi}, 0, \frac{-1-\sqrt{5}}{13\pi}, 0, \frac{4}{15\pi}, 0, \right. \\ \left. \frac{-1-\sqrt{5}}{17\pi}, 0, \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{19\pi}, 0, \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{21\pi}, 0, \frac{-1-\sqrt{5}}{23\pi}, 0, \frac{4}{25\pi}, 0, \frac{-1-\sqrt{5}}{27\pi}, 0, \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{29\pi}, 0 \right\}$$

- Now we know the first 30 values for a_n ... we're done!

Example

- Is this a good approximation?

`Plot[z[x, 0], {x, 0, 1}, PlotRange → {-1, 2}]`



- A good description of sharp features require high frequencies (large n).

Example

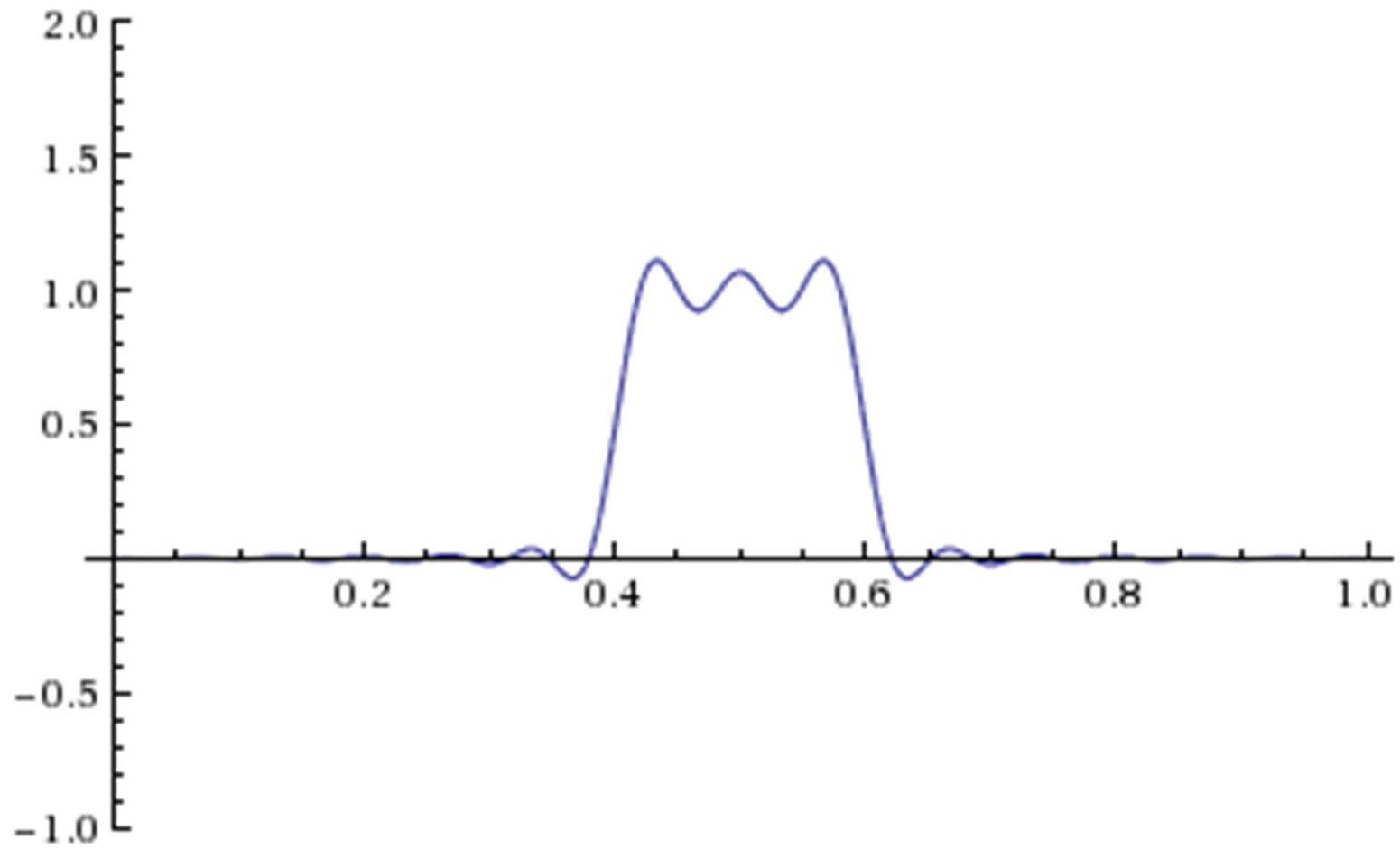
- The complete solution to the initial value problem is

$$y(x, t) = \sum_n a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos \omega_n t$$

$$\omega_n = \frac{n\pi}{L} \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$$

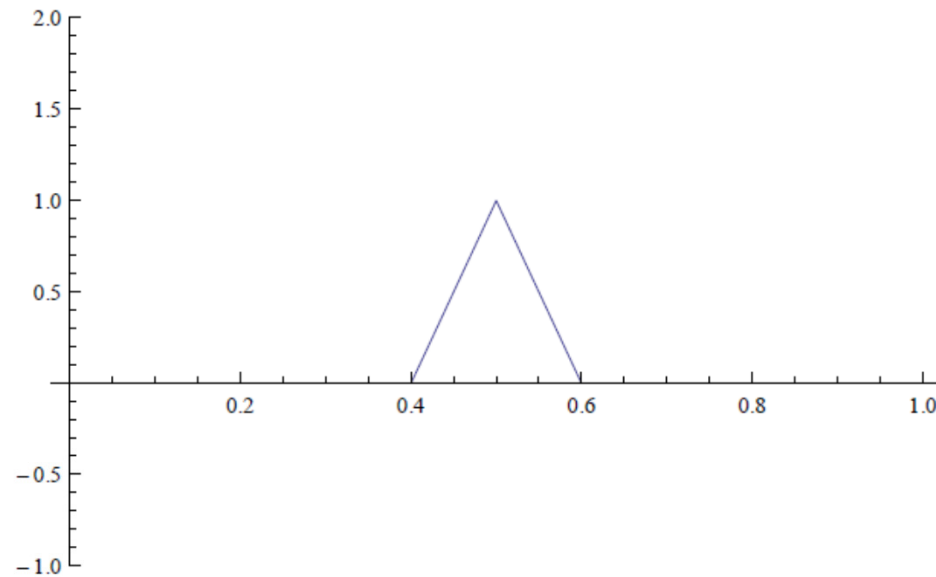
- What does this look like as a function of time?

Example



Another Example

- Consider a function that is a bit smoother:



$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < \frac{2}{5} \\ 10 \left(-\frac{2}{5} + x\right) & x > \frac{2}{5} \ \&\& \ x < \frac{1}{2} \\ 2 + 10 \left(\frac{2}{5} - x\right) & x > \frac{1}{2} \ \&\& \ x < \frac{3}{5} \\ 0 & \text{True} \end{cases}$$

Example

- The integrals for the Fourier coefficients are of the form:

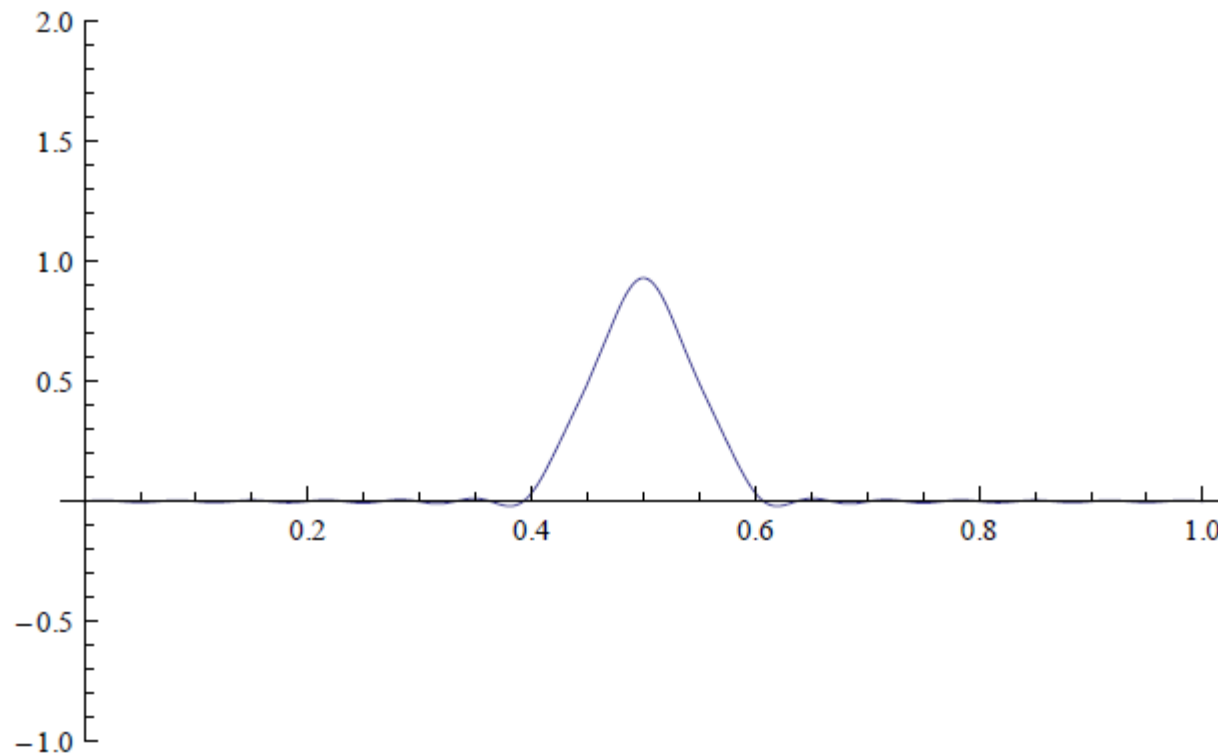
$$\int_a^b \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \text{ or } \int_a^b x \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

- These can be solved analytically, but it is a lot of work...

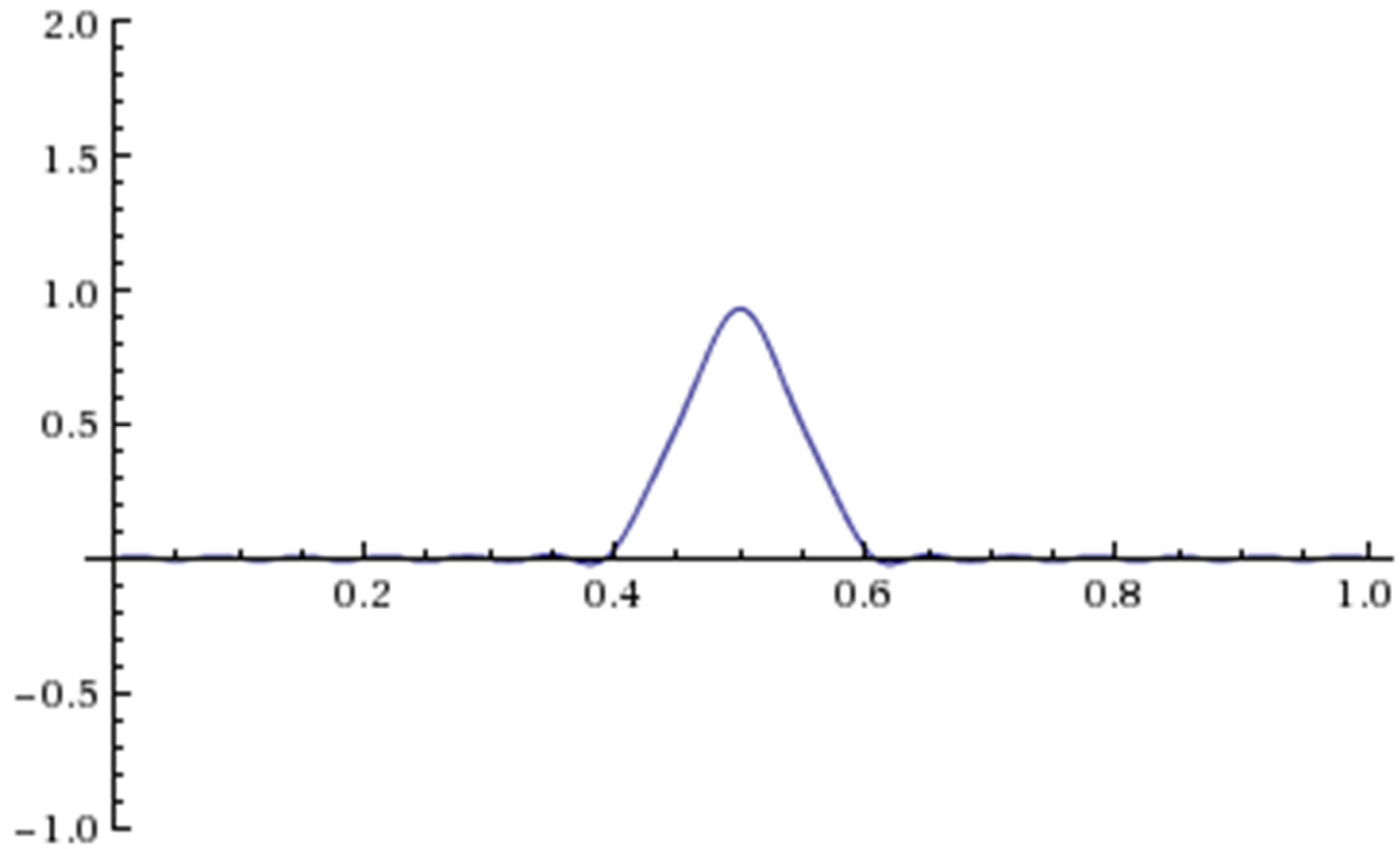
$$\left\{ -\frac{10 \left(-4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 + \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{\pi^2}, 0, \frac{10 \left(-4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 - \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{9 \pi^2}, 0, \frac{8}{5 \pi^2}, 0, -\frac{10 \left(4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 - \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{49 \pi^2}, 0, \right. \\ \frac{10 \left(4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 + \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{81 \pi^2}, 0, -\frac{10 \left(4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 + \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{121 \pi^2}, 0, \frac{10 \left(4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 - \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{169 \pi^2}, 0, -\frac{8}{45 \pi^2}, \\ 0, -\frac{10 \left(-4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 - \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{289 \pi^2}, 0, \frac{10 \left(-4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 + \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{361 \pi^2}, 0, -\frac{10 \left(-4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 + \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{441 \pi^2}, 0, \\ \left. \frac{10 \left(-4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 - \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{529 \pi^2}, 0, \frac{8}{125 \pi^2}, 0, -\frac{10 \left(4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 - \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{729 \pi^2}, 0, \frac{10 \left(4 + \sqrt{2 \left(5 + \sqrt{5} \right)} \right)}{841 \pi^2}, 0 \right\}$$

Example

- The initial shape of the approximation with $N=30$ is better than for the square pulse.



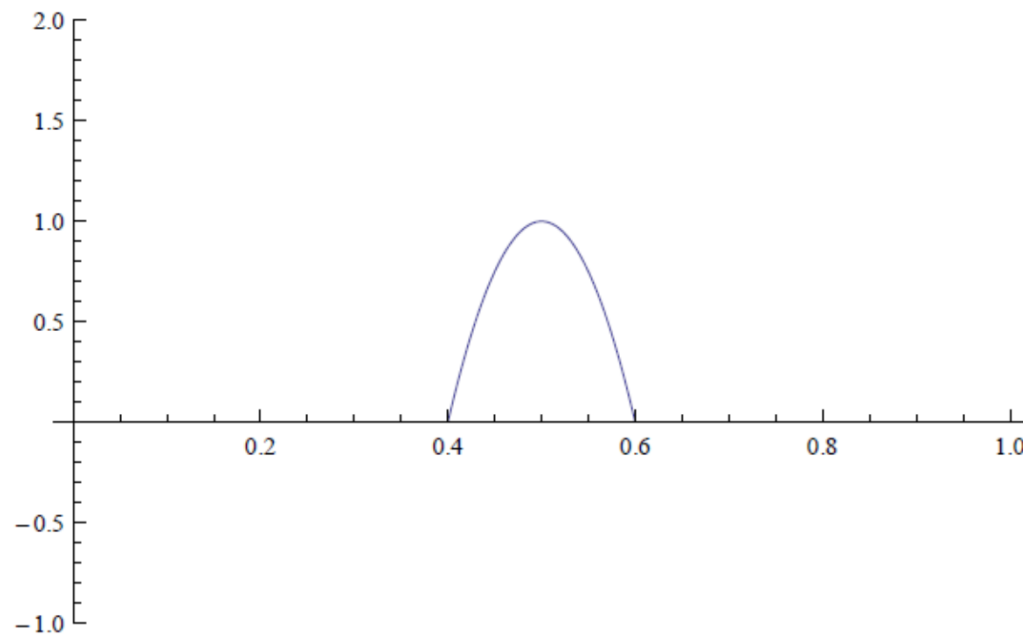
Example



Final Example

- An even smoother function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < \frac{2}{5} \\ 1 - 100 \left(-\frac{1}{2} + x\right)^2 & x > \frac{2}{5} \ \&\& \ x < \frac{3}{5} \\ 0 & \text{True} \end{cases}$$



Example

- The integrals for the Fourier coefficients are of the form:

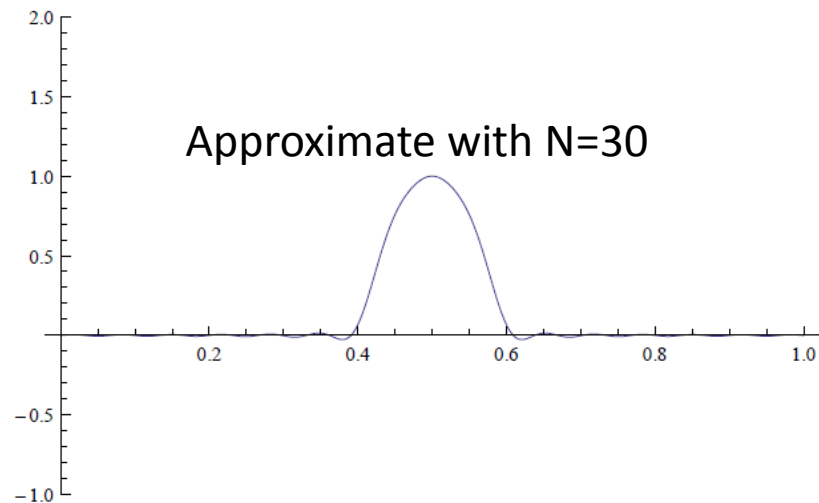
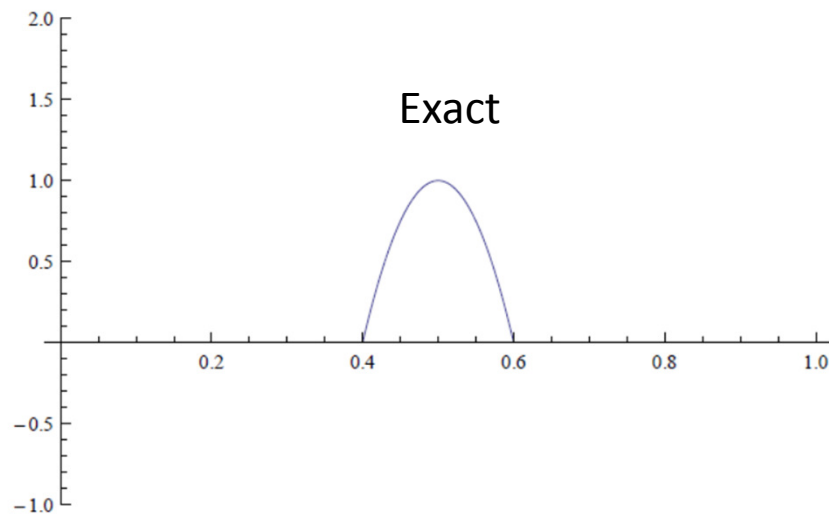
$$\int_a^b \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \text{ or } \int_a^b x \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \text{ or } \int_a^b x^2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

- These can be solved analytically, but it is a lot of work...

$$\left\{ -\frac{20 \left(10 - 10\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{2(5+\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{\pi^3}, 0, \frac{20 \left(-10 - 10\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{2(5-\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{27\pi^3}, 0, \frac{32}{5\pi^3}, \right. \\ 0, -\frac{20 \left(10 + 10\sqrt{5} + 7\sqrt{2(5-\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{343\pi^3}, 0, \frac{20 \left(-10 + 10\sqrt{5} + 9\sqrt{2(5+\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{729\pi^3}, 0, \\ -\frac{20 \left(10 - 10\sqrt{5} + 11\sqrt{2(5+\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{1331\pi^3}, 0, \frac{20 \left(-10 - 10\sqrt{5} + 13\sqrt{2(5-\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{2197\pi^3}, 0, \frac{32}{135\pi^3}, \\ 0, -\frac{20 \left(10 + 10\sqrt{5} + 17\sqrt{2(5-\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{4913\pi^3}, 0, \frac{20 \left(-10 + 10\sqrt{5} + 19\sqrt{2(5+\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{6859\pi^3}, 0, \\ -\frac{20 \left(10 - 10\sqrt{5} + 21\sqrt{2(5+\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{9261\pi^3}, 0, \frac{20 \left(-10 - 10\sqrt{5} + 23\sqrt{2(5-\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{12167\pi^3}, 0, \frac{32}{625\pi^3}, \\ \left. 0, -\frac{20 \left(10 + 10\sqrt{5} + 27\sqrt{2(5-\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{19683\pi^3}, 0, \frac{20 \left(-10 + 10\sqrt{5} + 29\sqrt{2(5+\sqrt{5})} \pi \right)}{24389\pi^3}, 0 \right\}$$

Example

- The initial shape of the approximation with $N=30$ is even better than the triangular pulse...



Example

