

53. A Remarkable Divergent Fourier Series

By Yung-Ming CHEN

Department of Mathematics, Hong Kong University, Hong Kong

(Comm. by Z. SUEJUNA, M.J.A., June 12, 1962)

It is very well known that A. N. Kolmogorov [2] was the first to construct an example of a function $f(x) \in L(0, 2\pi)$ whose Fourier-Lebesgue trigonometric series diverges almost everywhere. Later he constructed a Fourier-Lebesgue series which diverges unboundedly everywhere [3]. But the Fourier series given by Kolmogorov is not a Fourier series of a function $f(x) \in L \log^+ L$, since its conjugate series is not a Fourier series.¹⁾ The next step forward was made by G. H. Hardy and W. W. Rogosinski [1]. They constructed an almost everywhere divergent Fourier series whose conjugate series is also a Fourier series.²⁾

In another direction, K. Zeller [8] gave a method to construct a Fourier series which converges on an arbitrary set $E \subset (0, 2\pi)$ of the type F_σ (denumerable sum of closed sets) and diverges unboundedly on $E_1 = [0, 2\pi] - E$. Recently L. V. Taikov [6] constructed a Fourier series which converges on $E \subset [0, 2\pi)$ of the type F_σ and diverges unboundedly everywhere on $E_1 = [0, 2\pi) - E$ such that the conjugate series is also a Fourier series.

It is natural to inquire whether the Fourier series of a function $f(x)$ belonging to $L^2(0, 2\pi)$ converges almost everywhere. This was conjectured by N. N. Luzin in the positive sense some forty-five years ago,³⁾ but it has neither been proved nor been disproved. To attack this difficult problem, it is of interest to observe the maximum speed at which a Fourier series may diverge unboundedly almost everywhere. If there exists a Fourier series which diverges very fast, we might think that the Luzin's conjecture could not be true. Concerning to this point, A. Zygmund ([10], p. 308) conjectured that for any sequence of positive numbers $\lambda_n = o(\log n)$, $n \rightarrow \infty$, there is an $f \in L$ such that at almost every point x we have $S_n(x; f) > \lambda_n$ for infinitely many n , where $S_n(x; f)$ denotes the n th partial sum of the Fourier

1) See, for example, [10] p. 308 and [7] Theorem 9. But, the series considered in [7] §3 is different from the original series defined by Kolmogorov, since the function $\phi_n(x)$ defined in [7] §3 is not a Féjer kernel. Each function $f(x)$ of the class denoted by $L \log^+ L$ is such that $|f(x)| \log^+ |f(x)| \in L(0, 2\pi)$.

2) In the English translation of [6]: Soviet Math., **6**, No. 2, p. 347, it is stated that Hardy and Rogosinski constructed an everywhere divergent Fourier series whose conjugate series is also a Fourier series, but it has been wrongly translated, cf. also [5].

3) See [4] p. 219.

series of $f(x)$. The purpose of this paper is to present a function $f(x)$ whose Fourier-Lebesgue trigonometric series diverges unboundedly at every point with the scale of $o(\log \log n)$, such that the conjugate series of the Fourier of $f(x)$ is also a Fourier series. From this result it is natural to conjecture that there exists a function $f(x) \in L(0, 2\pi)$ with $\bar{f}(x) \in L(0, 2\pi)$ and $|f(x)| \log^+ \log^+ |f(x)| \in L(0, 2\pi)$ such that the Fourier series of $f(x)$ diverges everywhere in $[0, 2\pi)$.

LEMMA 1. Let $M > 0$. Then for each trigonometric polynomial

$$(1) \quad T(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \cos kx + b_k \sin kx,$$

there exists a trigonometric polynomial of the form

$$(2) \quad t(x) = \sum_{k=Q}^R c_k \cos kx + d_k \sin kx,$$

where $Q > M$, such that, for each $x \in [0, 2\pi)$,

$$(3) \quad |t(x)| \leq |T(x)|, \quad |\bar{t}(x)| \leq |T(x)|,$$

$$(4) \quad \frac{1}{8} \sup_k |S_k(x; T)| \leq \sup_n |S_n(x; \bar{t})| \leq \sup_k [|S_k(x; t)| + |S_k(x; \bar{T})|],$$

$$(5) \quad \frac{1}{8} \sup_k |S_k(x; T)| \leq \sup_n |S_n(x; t)|,$$

where $\bar{t}(x)$ and $\bar{T}(x)$ are respectively the conjugate functions of $f(x)$ and $T(x)$.

Lemma 1 is due to L. V. Taikov [6].⁴⁾ In what follows we shall denote, by K_1, K_2, \dots , some positive constants.

LEMMA 2. There is a sequence of non-negative trigonometric polynomials $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n, \dots$ of orders $\nu_1 < \nu_2 < \dots$, with constant term 1 and having the following properties. With each n we can associate a number $A_n = K_1 \log n$, a set $E_n = [0, 4\pi(n - \sqrt{n})/(2n + 1)] \subset [0, 2\pi)$, and an integer λ_n such that

(i) $\lambda_n \nearrow \infty$;

(ii) for each $x \in E_n$, there is an integer k satisfying $\lambda_n \leq k \leq \nu_n$, $20n < k = k(x, n) < 20K_2^{n - \sqrt{n}} n^{2(n - \sqrt{n}) + 1}$ for sufficiently large n , and such that

$$(6) \quad S_k(x; F_n) > A_n = K_1 \log n > K_3 \log k,$$

for sufficiently large n .

It is sufficient to prove (6) and to estimate the value of k ; and we omit further details of the proof which have been given in [10] pp. 310–311. We now follow the details in [9] pp. 175–179, in which the method is different from the argument given in [10] p. 313

4) See Lemma 2 in [6]. There is a slip in p. 784, where $|\cos px| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ should read $|\cos px| \leq \frac{1}{4}$ and we have to replace $\frac{1}{4} \sup_k |S_k(x; T)|$ in formula (2) of [6] by $\frac{1}{8} \sup_k |S_k(x; t)|$ in our formula (4). Our formula (5) has been established in [6], p. 784.

which depends on the theory of distribution. In the first place, we need to give a precise estimate of the value of $\delta = \delta_n$ which is defined in [9], p. 176. Writing $K_m(t)$ for the m th Féjer kernel of t :

$$(7) \quad K_m(t) = \frac{1}{2(m+1)} \left\{ \frac{\sin\left(\frac{m+1}{2}t\right)^2}{\sin\frac{1}{2}t} \right\},$$

we define, as in [9] p. 176,

$$(8) \quad F_n(x) = \phi(x) + \psi(x) = K_m\{(2n+1)x\} + \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^n K_{m_i}(x-x_{2i}),$$

where $x_i = 2\pi i/(2n+1)$, $M \leq m_0 < m_1 < \dots$, and the numbers m_j will be defined later. We now set $\phi(x) = K_m\{(2n+1)x\} \geq n$, for $x \in I_i = (x_i - \delta, x_i + \delta)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n$. Taking $m = m_0 = M = 20n$, $t = (2n+1)x$, we have

$$(9) \quad \begin{cases} K_m(t) = \frac{1}{2(m+1)} \left\{ \frac{\sin\left(\frac{m+1}{2}t\right)^2}{\sin\frac{1}{2}t} \right\} \geq \frac{2}{(m+1)t^2} \left\{ \sin\left(\frac{m+1}{2}t\right) \right\}^2 \\ \geq \frac{2}{(m+1)t^2} \left\{ \frac{(m+1)}{2\pi} t \right\}^2 = \frac{m+1}{2\pi^2} > \frac{m+1}{20} > n, \end{cases}$$

for $0 < \frac{(m+1)t}{2} < \frac{\pi}{2}$ and $0 < x < \frac{\pi}{20n(n+1)}$. So it is sufficient to

take $\delta = \frac{1}{20n^2}$, for sufficiently large n . We now write, as in [9]

p. 178, $x_{2j+2} - x = 4\pi\theta/(2n+1)$. Then $x \in I'_{2j} + I'_{2j+1}$ if and only if $\theta \in \left\{ \left(\eta, \frac{1}{2} - \eta \right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \eta, 1 - \eta \right) \right\}$, where $I'_j = (x_j + \delta, x_{j+1} - \delta)$, $j = 0, \dots, 2n$.

This means $\eta = \frac{\delta}{4\pi} = \frac{1}{80\pi n^2} > \frac{1}{320n^2}$. We proceed to estimate the values of m_j , $0 \leq j \leq n - \sqrt{n}$, which are defined in [9] pp. 178-179. This corresponds to the following cases:

$$(a) \quad 2\theta \in \left(2\eta, \frac{1}{3} \right), \quad (b) \quad 2\theta \in \left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3} \right), \quad (c) \quad 2\theta \in \left(\frac{2}{3}, 1 - 2\eta \right).$$

From cases (a) and (c), we obtain

$$(10) \quad m'_j \leq m_j + \frac{2(1/12)}{2(1/320n^2)} = m_j + \frac{80}{3} n^2.$$

The case (b) can be decomposed into:

$$(a) \quad 2\theta \in \left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{5}{12} \right), \quad (\beta) \quad 2\theta \in \left(\frac{5}{12}, \frac{7}{12} \right), \quad (\gamma) \quad 2\theta \in \left(\frac{7}{12}, \frac{2}{3} \right).$$

In cases (a) and (γ), 4θ belongs to either $\left(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{6} \right)$ or $\left(\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3} \right)$, and

this gives

$$(11) \quad m'_j \leq m_j + \frac{160}{3} n^2.$$

It remains to consider the case (β) . Following the argument in [9] p. 179, we have

$$(12) \quad m'_j \leq m_j + \frac{320}{3} n^2 m_j = \left(1 + \frac{320}{3} n^2\right) m_j < K_4 n^2 m_j.$$

Since we may take $m_{j+1} = 2m'_j + 1$, and therefore we have the estimate:

$$(13) \quad m_j \leq K_5^j n^{2^j} m_0 \leq K_5^{n-\sqrt{n}} n^{2(n-\sqrt{n})} \cdot 20n, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, [n - \sqrt{n}].$$

If $x \in (I'_{2j} + I'_{2j+1})$, then the value $k = k(x, n)$ is defined by $m_j \leq k < \frac{1}{2} m_{j+1}$.

This means $\log \log k < K_6 \log n$, for sufficiently large n , and therefore we obtain

$$(14) \quad S_k(F_n; x) > K_7 \log n > K_8 \log \log k, \quad x \in \sum_{j=0}^{[n-\sqrt{n}]} (I'_{2j} + I'_{2j+1}),$$

$$(15) \quad S_k(F_n; x) = S_M(F_n; x) = S_{20n}(F_n; x) \geq \frac{1}{2} n, \quad x \in \sum_{i=0}^{2n} I_i.$$

The inequality (6) then follows immediately from (14) and (15).

THEOREM 1. Given any sequence of positive numbers $p_n = o(\log \log n)$, $n \rightarrow \infty$, there exists a function $f(x)$ with conjugate series being a Fourier series, such that at every point x , $S_n(x; f) > p_n$ for infinitely many n .

Proof. We first take a trigonometric polynomial $t_n(x)$ obtained from $F_n(x)$ as in Lemma 1, so that there is no overlapping of terms occurred in the following trigonometric series:

$$(16) \quad \sum_1^\infty \frac{t_n(x)}{B_n} = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{1}{B_n} \sum_{j=P(n)}^{[K_2^{n-\sqrt{n}} 20n^{2(n-\sqrt{n})+1} + P(n)]} (a_j \cos jx + b_j \sin jx),$$

where the constants B_n, a_j, b_j will be defined later. This means

$$(17) \quad 20K_2^{n-\sqrt{n}} n^{2(n-\sqrt{n})+1} + P(n) < P(n+1),$$

$$(18) \quad P(n+1) - P(n) > K_9^{n-\sqrt{n}} n^{2(n-\sqrt{n})+1}.$$

It is sufficient to take

$$(19) \quad \begin{cases} P(n) \simeq \int_1^n K_9^{x-\sqrt{x}} x^{2(x-\sqrt{x})+1} dx \\ < \int_1^n e^{2x^2} x dx < e^{2n^2} \quad (n \geq N), \end{cases}$$

for sufficiently large n . So we may take $P(n)$ equals to the integral part of e^{2n^2} : $P(n) = [e^{2n^2}]$. We may assume, without loss of generality, that $p_n / \log \log n$ decreases steadily to zero. Then we set B_n such that

$$(20) \quad \frac{1}{B_n} > \frac{16p_k}{K_3 \log \log k},$$

for all values of $k = k(x, n)$ such that

$$(21) \quad 20n + P(n) < k = k(x, n) < P(n) + 20K_2^{n-\sqrt{n}} n^{2(n-\sqrt{n})+1}.$$

It follows that

$$(22) \quad \frac{16p_{[20n+P(n)]}}{K_3 \log \log \{20n+P(n)\}} < \frac{1}{B_n}.$$

It is then sufficient to take

$$(23) \quad B_n = \frac{K_3 \log \log 20n}{16p_{20n}},$$

which increases monotonically to infinity, as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Next, let us define n_i and

$$(24) \quad f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} t_{n_i}(x)/B_{n_i},$$

so that $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 1/B_{n_i} < \infty$. From Lemma 1 and Lemma 2, we see that

$f(x) \in L(0, 2\pi)$, and the series (24) has infinitely many blocks of non-overlapping trigonometric polynomials, such that

$$(25) \quad \begin{cases} |S_k(x; f)| > \frac{1}{2} \frac{S_k(x; t_n)}{B_n} > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{8} \frac{S_k(x; T_n)}{B_n} \\ > \frac{1}{16} K_3 \log \log k \cdot \frac{16p_k}{K_3 \log \log k} = p_k, \end{cases}$$

for infinitely many k satisfying

$$(26) \quad k > P(n_i) = [e^{2n_i^2}].$$

It remains to show that $\bar{f}(x) \in L(0, 2\pi)$. By Lemma 1, it follows that

$$(27) \quad \begin{cases} \int_0^{2\pi} |\bar{f}(x)| dx \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \int_0^{2\pi} |t_{n_i}(x)| dx / B_{n_i} \\ \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{B_{n_i}} \int_0^{2\pi} |F_{n_i}(x)| dx = 2\pi \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{B_{n_i}} < \infty. \end{cases}$$

Hence $\bar{f}(x) \in L(0, 2\pi)$. This completes the proof of Theorem 1. The following theorem is a direct consequence of above Theorem 1 (cf. also [5]):

THEOREM 2. Given any sequence of positive numbers $p_n = o(\log \log n)$, $n \rightarrow \infty$, there exists a Fourier series belonging to the class H , such that at every point $x \in [0, 2\pi)$, $S_n(x, f) > p_n$ for infinitely many n .

Added in Proof. The author is indebted to Prof. P. L. Ul'yanov for pointing out a mistake during the preparation of this paper.

References

[1] Hardy, G. H., and W. W. Rogosinski: *Fourier Series*, 3rd. ed. Cambridge Tracts, No. 38 (1956).
 [2] Kolmogorov, A. N.: Une s\u00e9rie de Fourier-Lebesgue divergent presque partout, *Fund. Math.*, **4**, 324-328 (1923).
 [3] Kolmogorov, A. N.: Une s\u00e9rie de Fourier-Lebesgue divergent partout, *Comptes Rendus*, **183**, 1327-1328 (1926).
 [4] Lusin, N. N.: *Integral and Trigonometric Series* (Bibliography of Russian Sciences, in Russian), Moscow-Leningrad (1951).

- [5] Sunouchi, G.: A Fourier series which belongs to the class H , diverges everywhere, *Kōdai Math. Seminar Report*, **1**, 27-28 (1953).
- [6] Taikov, L. V.: On divergence of Fourier series (in Russian), *Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR.*, **137**, 782-785 (1961). (English tran.: *Soviet Math.*, **2**, no. 2, 347-350 (1961).
- [7] Ul'yanov, P. L.: On divergence of Fourier series (in Russian), *Uspehi Mat. Nauk SSSR*, **7**, 75-132 (1957).
- [8] Zeller, K.: Über Konvergenzmengen von Fourierreihen, *Arch. Math.*, **6**, 335-340 (1955).
- [9] Zygmund, A.: *Trigonometrical Series*, 1st. ed., Warsaw-Lwów (1935).
- [10] Zygmund, A.: *Trigonometric Series*, 2nd. ed., **1**, Cambridge (1959).