

**157. On the Class of Functions with Absolutely  
Convergent Fourier Series.**

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1. Let

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

be the Fourier series of a periodic summable function  $f(x)$  with the period  $2\pi$ . As regards the absolute convergence of the series (1), Zygmund<sup>1)</sup> has given a sufficient condition in the form that the function  $f(x)$  is of limited variation and satisfies Lipschitz's condition of the positive order.

In this note, we determine the class of all the functions whose Fourier series converge absolutely.

A periodic function  $f(x)$  is said to be Young's continuous function, if there exist two periodic square-summable functions  $f_1(x)$ ,  $f_2(x)$ , satisfying the relation

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) f_2(\xi + x) d\xi,$$

here and afterwards the period being taken to be  $2\pi$ . The functions of such a type were first considered by Young<sup>2)</sup>. Now we will prove the following theorem :

*The necessary and sufficient condition for the absolute convergence of a trigonometrical series in the whole interval<sup>3)</sup>, is that the series is a Fourier series of a Young's continuous function.*

2. First we prove the necessity of the condition. Assuming the absolute convergence of the series

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

1) A. Zygmund, Remarque sur la convergence absolue des séries de Fourier, The Journal of the London Math. Soc., **3** (1928), 194-196.

2) W.H. Young, On a class of parametric integrals etc., Proc. Roy. Soc. (A), **85** (1911), 401-414.

3) N. Lusin proved that if a trigonometrical serie is absolutely convergent at a set of positive measure, it converges everywhere absolutely ; see Comptes Rendus, **155** (1912), 580.

we put

$$\sqrt{|a_n|} = \alpha_n, \quad \sqrt{|b_n|} = \beta_n, \\ m_n = \text{Max}(\alpha_n, \beta_n)$$

and define two sequences  $a_0', a_1', b_1', \dots$  and  $a_0'', a_1'', b_1'', \dots$  as follows :

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_0' a_0'' &= \alpha_0, \\ \alpha_n' &= b_n' = m_n, \\ \alpha_n'' &= \frac{1}{2m_n}(\alpha_n + \beta_n) \\ b_n'' &= \frac{1}{2m_n}(\alpha_n - \beta_n) \quad \text{for } m_n \neq 0, \\ \alpha_n'' &= b_n'' = 0 \quad \text{for } m_n = 0, \\ n &= 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

By Lusin's theorem<sup>1)</sup>, the series  $\sum |a_n|$ ,  $\sum |b_n|$  are convergent. We have further

$$\begin{aligned} \sum (\alpha_n'^2 + b_n'^2) &= 2 \sum m_n^2 \leq 2 \sum (\alpha_n^2 + \beta_n^2) = 2 \sum (|a_n| + |b_n|), \\ \sum (\alpha_n''^2 + b_n''^2) &= \sum_{m_n \neq 0} (\alpha_n''^2 + b_n''^2) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{m_n \neq 0} \frac{(\alpha_n + \beta_n)^2 + (\alpha_n - \beta_n)^2}{m_n^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m_n \neq 0} \frac{\alpha_n^2 + \beta_n^2}{m_n^2} \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum (|a_n| + |b_n|). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the series  $\sum (\alpha_n'^2 + b_n'^2)$  and  $\sum (\alpha_n''^2 + b_n''^2)$  are convergent. Hence it follows from Riesz-Fischer's theorem that there exist two periodic functions  $f_1(x)$  and  $f_2(x)$  whose Fourier coefficients are  $\alpha_0', \alpha_1', b_1', \dots$  and  $\alpha_0'', \alpha_1'', b_1'', \dots$  respectively. Moreover the squares of these functions are summable.

We proceed to show that the series (1) is the Fourier's expansion of the Young's continuous function

$$(2) \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) f_2(\xi + x) d\xi.$$

By the change of the order of integrations<sup>2)</sup>, we get

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) d\xi \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi + x) \cos nx dx$$

1) Loc. cit.

2) This is evidently allowable.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) d\xi \int_{-\pi+\xi}^{\pi+\xi} f_2(x) \cos n(x-\xi) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) [a_n'' \cos n\xi + b_n'' \sin n\xi] d\xi \\
 &= a_n' a_n'' + b_n' b_n'' .
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx = b_n' a_n'' - a_n' b_n''$

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

For  $m_n \neq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n' a_n'' + b_n' b_n'' &= m_n (a_n'' + b_n'') = a_n , \\
 b_n' a_n'' - a_n' b_n'' &= m_n (a_n'' - b_n'') = b_n ;
 \end{aligned}$$

and for  $m_n = 0$ ,  $a_n = b_n = 0$ ,  $a_n' = b_n' = a_n'' = b_n'' = 0$ .

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n' a_n'' + b_n' b_n'' &= a_n , & n=1, 2, \dots \\
 b_n' a_n'' - a_n' b_n'' &= b_n .
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \frac{\cos nx}{\sin nx} dx = \frac{a_n}{b_n} , \quad n=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Since the function  $f(x)$  is defined by (2), the necessity of the condition is thus proved.

3. To prove the sufficiency of the given condition, let the function  $f(x)$  be defined by the relation

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) f_2(\xi+x) d\xi ,$$

where  $f_1(x)$ ,  $f_2(x)$  denote two square-summable functions with the period  $2\pi$ . The Fourier's constants of  $f_1(x)$  are

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n' &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) \cos n\xi d\xi , & b_n' &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) \sin n\xi d\xi , \\
 & n=0, 1, 2, \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $x$  be fixed and denote the Fourier's coefficients of the function  $f_2(\xi+x)$  by  $a_0''(x)$ ,  $a_1''(x)$ ,  $b_1''(x)$ , ..... ; thus

$$\frac{a_n''(x)}{b_n''(x)} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi+x) \frac{\cos n\xi}{\sin n\xi} d\xi, \quad n=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Then by the Parseval's identity we have

$$(3) \quad \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) f_2(\xi+x) d\xi = \frac{1}{2} a_0' a_0''(x) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n' a_n''(x) + b_n' b_n''(x)),$$

which is an absolutely convergent series, since the series

$$\sum (a_n'^2 + b_n'^2) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum (a_n''^2(x) + b_n''^2(x))$$

are convergent. The series (3) is, however, nothing but the Fourier's expansion of the function  $f(x)$ . In fact, applying the calculations in 2,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x') dx' &= \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) d\xi \cdot \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi) d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_1(\xi) d\xi \cdot \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi+x) d\xi = a_0' a_0''(x), \end{aligned}$$

since  $f_2(x)$  is periodic. And

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x') \cos nx' dx' \cdot \cos nx + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x') \sin nx' dx' \cdot \sin nx \\ &= \cos nx \left( a_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi) \cos n\xi d\xi + b_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi) \sin n\xi d\xi \right) \\ &\quad + \sin nx \left( b_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi) \cos n\xi d\xi - a_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi) \sin n\xi d\xi \right) \\ &= a_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi) \cos n(\xi-x) d\xi + b_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi) \sin n(\xi-x) d\xi \\ &= a_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi+x) \cos n\xi d\xi + b_n' \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_2(\xi+x) \sin n\xi d\xi \\ &= a_n' a_n''(x) + b_n' b_n''(x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the proposition is established.