

Team A:	$\tanh(x)$	on $[-2\pi, 2\pi]$.
Team B:	$1/(1 + \cos^2 x)$	on $[-3\pi, 3\pi]$.
Team C:	e^{-x^2}	on $[-\pi, \pi]$.
Team D:	$(1 - x^2) \ln(1 - x^2)$	on $[-1, 1]$.
Team E:	$1/(e^x + 1)$	on $[-1, 1]$.
Team F:	$e^{-1/(1-x^2)}$	on $[-1, 1]$.
Team G:	$\sin(x^2)$	on $[-3\sqrt{\pi}, 3\sqrt{\pi}]$.
Team H:	$\sqrt{4 - x}$	on $[-2, 2]$.

For each function $f(x)$ defined on an interval $[-\ell, \ell]$:

1. Approximate the function with a truncated power series, $f_{\text{Power}}^{(N)}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^N a_k (x/\ell)^k$, constructed to agree with the given function at $N+1$ points equally spaced between $-\ell$ and ℓ (including the two endpoints), so the spacing between points is $\Delta x = 2\ell/N$.
2. Approximate the function by a truncated Fourier series, $f_{\text{Fourier}}^{(N)}(x) = \sum_{k=-N/2}^{N/2} b_k e^{i\pi k x/\ell}$, constructed to agree with the given function at $N+1$ equally spaced points within the interval with spacing $\Delta x = 2\ell/(N+1)$.
3. Approximate the function by a truncated Chebyshev series, $f_{\text{Chebyshev}}^{(N)} = \sum_{k=0}^N c_k T_k(x/\ell)$, constructed to agree with the given function on the ‘‘Gauss-Lobatto’’ grid points, $x_k^{(N)} \equiv -\ell \cos(k\pi/N)$, $k = 0, \dots, N$.

Examine the convergence and accuracy of these different approximations as N increases. For each approximation, estimate the maximum error, $\epsilon(N) \equiv \max_{-\ell \leq x \leq \ell} |f(x) - f^{(N)}|$. The goal is to find the maximum error correct to one significant digit. Highly accurate maximization is not needed — it is sufficient to test the deviation on a grid of points which is significantly finer than the starting $N + 1$ point grid.

What can you learn from these results? In each case, how fast do the coefficients decrease with increasing k ? What controls this behavior? Which expansion is most efficient (fewest terms required to obtain good accuracy) for your given test function? Any general conclusions?